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THE PUBLICATIONS OF THE CHAMPLAIN SOCIETY

XV

THE PUBLICATIONS OF THE CHAMPLAIN SOCIETY

SELECT BRITISH DOCUMENTS OF THE CANADIAN WAR OF 1812

VOLUME III, PART I

TORONTO
THE CHAMPLAIN SOCIETY

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SELECT BRITISH DOCUMENTS OF THE CANADIAN WAR OF 1812

EDITED, WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY
WILLIAM WOOD

IN THREE VOLUMES
VOLUME III, PART I

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NARRATIVE DOCUMENTS

GROUP X

OPERATIONS ON THE FRONTIERS, 1814

Montreal Frontier: 1. Yamaska, January 10, 1814

Archives, C. 681, p. 246.

From Col. Scott, 103d Regt., at ——, to Sir Sidney Beckwith, Q.M.G., at Montreal.

My Dear Sir/

I have this moment returned from Isle a Chat and the Boharnous Channel, . . . such a Battery as the above on Grand Isle and opposite *McPhersons* Point in my opinion would be an unsurmountable obstacle to the Enemy advancing by that Passage, I consider it would be impossible for them to pass the Battery and where [*sic*] they to attempt to Land they would be exposed to be attacked in their rear by troops passing over from the Coteau, even with out any movement in favour of this Position, I consider that the Block house surrounded with a strong abbottis would be able to resist any attack that could be made upon it at least Two or Three days to take it, it would be necessary to send Cannon,—The Boharnois Channell fortified in this manner with the Works already ordered on the Coteau and Prison Island I consider that both Channells would be so strong that Three quarters of the Troops would at all times [be] disposable in addition to the Five Eighteen Pounders in

the Battery one would be required in the Block house. 100 Men would be sufficient for this Battery, and Block house.— Pray inform me if you think my proposal advisable and if you approve submit it to His Excellency, this could be carried into effect immediately and would not at all interfere with the other Works which must go on early in the Spring.—

I remain my Dear Sir,
Yours ever Truly
H. Scott

20th *December* 1813.

Archives, C. 1171, p. 165.

G.O. A.G.O. Quebec 14th January 1814.

A rumour having gained publicity of an Armastice having been agreed upon in England, between Great Britain and the United States of America—The Commander of the Forces thinks it expedient to announce to the Troops in General Orders, that he has not received any intimation of such an event being contemplated—He therefore calls upon General Officers and others in Command of Posts, and upon the Troops generally, and all Public Departments, to preserve the utmost vigilance and energy in the discharge of the respective duties, and that no relaxation be suffered to prevail in consequence.

Returns of Accoutrements in possession of the Battalions of Embodied Militia, specifying such as are unfit for Service, are to be sent immediately to the Adjutant Generals Office, when Orders will be given for their being replaced by serviceable Accoutrements.—

(Signed) Edward Baynes
Adjutant Gen[l]
North America

Archives, C. 1171, p. 172.

G.O. H^d Q^rs Montreal 29^th Jan^y 1814.
Adjutant Generals Office

The Governor in Chief and Commander of the Forces, has been pleased to Order, that in the event of its being necessary to call upon the Inhabitants, for the transportation, by Corvée, of Wood, for the use of the Troops in Garrison at Montreal; from La Prairie, 7/6 Currency, will be allowed per Cord, and in the same proportion for the distance, if brought from other places.—

(Signed) Edward Baynes
Adjutant General—

Archives, C. 1171, p. 172.

G.O. H^d Q^rs Montreal 29^th Jan^y 1814

His Excellency the Governor in Chief and Commander of the Forces, has received a report from L^t C^l Taylor—Insp^g. Field Officer of Militia at Yamaska, stating, that having Received information that the Enemys Patrole had recently appeared in that Quarter, he had directed Captain M^cGillivary of 3^d B^n E: Militia, to make a Reconnaissance on the Frontier of the Province—and that Captain M^cGillivary learning on his arrival at the Village of Phillipsburg on the evening of the 16^th Inst—that a detachment of American Dragoons had that day gone to Clough's Farm on the Lines, sent Lieut^t. Powell of the 5^th Battalion E. Militia—to collect a few Volunteers in the Village, who quickly returned with Captain Weyer & Ensign Prantz & 20 of the Sedentary Militia six of Whom were only armed. Captain M^cGillivary marched at 10 oClock and arrived within a few yards of the House before they were discovered by the Enemy's party,

consisting of a Serjeant & 13 Dragoons, who sallied from the House and fired their pistols ; but instantly fled to it for Shelter, on receiving the fire of the Militia, who persuing them with the Bayonet secured Six prisoners & 10 Horses, with their appointments & Arms complete, which they brought away, leaving one of the Enemy dead, and the Serjeant and one Dragoon severely wounded.—

The judgment and conduct displayed by Captain M^c^Gillivary and the prompt and Spirited support he experienced from the Officers & Volunteers of the Sedentary Militia, engaged in this gallant enterprize reflects on them the highest credit, and cannot fail of checking the predatory incursions of the Enemy—

. . . . . .

The Fortress at Prescott it is Future to be called Fort Wellington.—

The Commander of the Forces is pleased to appoint Serjeant Major Frost of the 19^th^ Light Dragoons, to Act as 2^nd^ Lieut^t^ of the Royal Artillery Gunner Drivers until the pleasure of His Royal Highness the Prince Regent is known.—

His Excellency the Commander of the Forces having accepted the Resignation of Captain Archibald Johnson of the Glengary Light Infantry and having received from that Officer every atonement [it] is in his power to make for the outrage he has committed against the discipline of the service, is pleased to cancel the General Order of the 26^th^ November, and to direct that Captain Johnson be no longer considered as belonging to the Forces in North America.—

. . . . . .

" (Signed) Edw^d^ Baynes "
Adj^t^. Gen^l^. N.A.—

NARRATIVE DOCUMENTS

GROUP X (*continued*)

OPERATIONS ON THE FRONTIERS, 1814

MONTREAL FRONTIER: 2. SALMON RIVER, FEBRUARY 14–24, 1814

Archives, C. 1171, p. 276.

G.O. Montreal 29th May 1814—

His Excellency The Comr of the Forces has been pleased to authorize the payment of the first dividend of the proceeds of the Prize property captured from the Enemy at Michilimackinac on the 17th July 1812, by the Detachment of Troops and Volunteers under the Commd of Captain Roberts of the 10th R.V.B; the Officers & Men entitled to a proportion of this Booty, will receive the amount of their Respective shares from Noah Freer Esqr Prize Agent being for this Issue £10 Cy to each private—

A Distribution has been directed to be made of the proceeds of the public property captured from the Enemy at the Salmon River on the 14th & 15th February 1814 by the Detachment under the Command of Major Cockburn of the Canadian Fencibles—to each Private thirteen Shillings Currency.—

And also the proceeds of the Booty captured from the Enemy at the Salmon River, Malone & the four Corners between the 19th & 24th February 1814 by the Troops under the Command of Colonel Scott 103rd Regt. to each Private Five Shillings & Six pence Currency.—

H.E. the Governor in Chief and Comr. of the Forces

has been pleased to direct that the Commission of W^m M^cGillivary Esq^r. as L^t C^l Com^g the Can^n Voyageurs is to extend to the Indian and Conquered Countries and to bear date from the 30^th Sept^r 1812—

H.E. The Commander of the Forces has been pleased to make the following app^t. in the Canadian Voltigeurs—

Q^r M^r Emanuel D'Aubreville of the Reg^t. De Meuron to be Captain Commission dated the 25^th of May 1814—

A Board of Survey to Assemble at Lower La Chine on Tuesday the 2^nd June at 11 OClock at the King's Stores, a Field Officer of this Garrison and two Captains, and two Merchants of that place are to be invited to attend by the Commissariat, for the purpose of investigating the Cause and extent of injury sustained by the Public in consequence of Fire which took place on the Evening of the 26^th Ins^t at the Shipping Store—

(Signed) Edward Baynes
Adjutant General

Archives, C. 695, p. 35.

From Scott at Niagara to Prevost at ——.

Niagara 7^th June 1814

Sir

I have the honor to State to your Excellency I have this day received the General Order concerning Prize Money of which the Enclosed is a Copy and beg leave to State that the Detachment which went over to Salmon River on the 14^th February 1814, was not Commanded by Major Cockburn there being two Senior Officers to him present namely Lieutenant Colonel Morrison and myself, the whole of the Property was taken on that day, but as I had not then the means of bringing over the property, I ordered next morning (the 15^th) Major Cockburn with about one half of the same Detachment which had gone over under my own Command

on the 14th provided with Sleighs; he then brought over the Provisions. The Prize lists were sent in from the Three Corps concerned for the whole of the Detachment which went over on the 14th those lists were signed by me and forwarded to the Prize Agent your Excellency has been pleased to appoint.

I consider it my duty in justice to all concerned to make the present representation direct to your Excellency, and hope that no part of the Officers or Men entitled to Share for the Capture may be excluded; by the present order, I cannot find out to what extent the exclusion may be intended by the enclosed order I can only asscertain that Lieut Colonel Morrison & myself are intended to be excluded.

I have the honor to be
your most obedient
humble Servant
H. Scott Col
Lt Col 103d Rt.

NARRATIVE DOCUMENTS

GROUP X (*continued*)

OPERATIONS ON THE FRONTIERS, 1814

Montreal Frontier: 3. La Colle, March 30, 1814

Archives, C. 1171, p. 199.

G.O. Adjutant General's Office
Quebec 28th February 1814

The Commander of the Forces is pleased to direct that all Officers of every description be present at their Respective

Stations on the 24th March next after which period no leave of absence is to be granted, except in Cases of severe Sickness, certified and Recommended by a Medical Board, and all leave of absence that may have been sanctioned contrary to the above Tenor is hereby Cancelled and Annulled.—

In consequence of a temporary scarcity of Flour in Montreal His Excellency The Commander of the Forces is pleased to direct that the commutation of a Pound of Flour per Week heretofore given in lieu of Pease be discontinued and that the Troops and Departments in the Montreal District be paid in Money for Pease, at the Rate of Ten Shillings Currency per Bushel to commence with the first Issue after the Receipt of this Order at the respective Posts and to continue until the 24th May next.—

(Signed) Edwp. Baynes
Adjutant Genl.

Archives, C. 1171, p. 201.

G.O. Adjutant General's Office
Quebec 5th March 1814

His Excellency's The Commander of the Forces has Received information from His Excellency Lt. Genl. Sir John C. Sherbrooke Commanding the Forces in Nova Scotia, of the arrival at Halifax on the 29th Jany. of the following Officers—

Captain Zehender Regiment De Watteville
Lieutenant Carter Royal Artillery
Lieut. & Adjt. Steele 89th Regiment
Mr. Green Depy. Asst. Comy. General—

The three first named Officers were Captured on their passage to Kingston on the 5th October, they were considered as Prisoners of War *on Parole* until the 3rd December when they were placed in close confinement in Worchester

Gaol.—Mr. Green Dy. Asst. Cy. Gl. was captured on 7th Novr. and altho' exempted by the Cartel as a Non Combatant was nevertheless placed in close confinement with the above named Officers in the Common Gaol of Worchester.—

The Lieutenant General having caused the most minute Investigation to be made of the nature of the Confinement and circumstances attendg. the escape of these Officers, reports that they were not bound by any pledge or parole whatever, and have in no degree violated their Honor in making their escape.—

The Commander of the Forces directs that Captn. Zehender, Lieutt. Carter, Lt. & Adjt. Steele, & Mr. Green Dy. Asst. Comy. Gl. join their respective Corps, and resume the discharge of their Military duties—

The Commissariat Department will Receive into Store the Snow Shoes & Blankets in possession of the 2nd Battalion of the 8th (or Kings) Regiment arrived from New Brunswick.—

Captain Wm. McKay of the 5th Bn. E: Militia is appointed to the Command of the Company of Michigan Fencibles at Michilimackinac, in which he will draw pay and Allowances from 25th February last.—

His Excellency The Commander of the Forces having Received a favorable Report of the conduct of the Commisariat Clerks, Store Krs. and Issuers, who were taken prisoners by the Enemy at Fort George on the 27th May last, is pleased to revoke that part of the General Order of the 12th July last which directed they should be Suspended till further Orders—

(Signed) Edwd Baynes
Adjutant General
North America—

Archives, C. 1171, p. 205.

GENERAL ORDER. Quebec 9th March 1814—

It being essential that the Commissary General should often be absent from Quebec to enable him to carry on the Service of his Department, which might produce inconvenience to the Public as the faith of Government is pledged to give Bills of Exchange on the Treasurey of England on demand for Army Bills cancelled, His Excellency The Commander of the Forces is pleased to direct, that Ths. Bennett Asst. Comy. Genl. shall draw Bills upon the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury upon Account of William Henry Robinson Esqr., whenever the nature of the Case Requires it, under such Instructions and Regulations as the Commissary General may give to him for that purpose.—

His Excellency is pleased further to direct that during the absence of the Commissary General, and whenever he may require it, all the Public Departments in the Canadas shall draw their Bills of Exchange upon their respective Boards or Heads of Departments in England, in favor of the said Thomas Bennet Asst. Comy. Genl., in order to prevent the inconvenience, delay, and Risk of transmitting those Bills for the Commissary General's endorsment.—

The Head Quarters of the Army in the North American Provinces will be transferred to Montreal on the 25th Instant—

(Signed) EDWARD BAYNES
Adjutant Genl
North America—

Archives, C. 1171, p. 211.

G.O. Adjutant General's Office
Quebec 16th March 1814

His Excellency The Commander of the Forces approves of Lieut. Lamont of the 49th Regiment being appointed a temporary Assistant Engr. in the Montreal District.—

The 2nd Battalion 8th Regiment will furnish a Guard of Honor on Thursday the 17th at One OClock and the Order of procession on His Excellency's proroguing the Parliament to be the same as when the House was opened—

His Excellency The Governor in Chief and Commander of the Forces, will Receive the Deputies of the Tribes of Indian Warriors on his Return to the Castle of St. Lewis.—the General and Staff Officers that accompany His Excellency to the House of Provincial Legislature will attend at the Council—

(Signed) Edward Baynes
Adjutant Gen[l].

Archives, C. 1171, p. 216.

G.O. Adjutant General's Office
Quebec 19th March 1814

His Excellency The Commander of the Forces has received from Major General De Rottenb[g] the proceedings of a Court of enquiry held at Montreal for the investigation of irregularity and outrages committed by a Detachment of the 103rd Regiment under the Command of Captain Irwin on its March from Quebec.

The proceedings of the Court are confined to the assaults and Murder committed in the Parish of Cape Santé (as no evidence of any other outrages were brought before It) and to ascertain the Discipline, and order of March preserved by the Detachment on its Route.—

From these enquiries superficial as they have of necessity been, from the absence of the evidence of the Persons agrieved, sufficient Testimony has nevertheless been adduced by the Officers and Non Commissioned Officers of the Detachment, to establish that extreme irregularity—and want of order and discipline prevailed upon the First & Second day

of March of the 1st Division of the Detachment of the 103rd Regiment—and His Excellency is not left any grounds to doubt, the veracity of complaints, that have been preferred from various other Quarters—of Acts of wanton Violence, Insult and Rapine that have disgracefully Marked the Route of this Detachment from Quebec to Cape Santé.—

The emergency of the Service and the difficulty that would now attend the assembling the necessary evidence, alone prevents the further investigation of these occurrences by a General Court Martial, the perpetrators of the Murder having been consigned over to the Civil power for Trial.—

His Excellency cannot suffer so flagrant a violation of the Discipline of the Service to pass without his mark'd censure and Reproof—the original cause of this most disgraceful Conduct is to be looked for in the want of a good system of interior Discipline in the 103rd Regiment, which has sullied the Soldiers Character, and the licentious extent to which it has been suffered to prevail, Is to be attributed to a want of Zealous, and constant exertion on the part of the Officers of the Detachment and most particularly in the want of common attention evinced by the Officer in the immediate Command of the first Division—

(Signed) Edwd Baynes
Adjutant General—

Archives, C. 682, p. 289.

From Williams at La Colle to Vincent at Chambly.

La Cole, March 31st 1814

Sir/

I beg leave to acquaint you that I have just received from Major Handcock of the 13th Regiment Commanding at the Block house on La Cole river, a report stating that the out Posts on the roads from Burtonville, and La Cole

Mill leading to oDell Town were attacked at an early hour yesterday morning by the Enemy in great force collected from Platsburg, and Burlington under the Command of Major General Wilkinson. The attack on the Burtonville road was soon over, when the Enemy shewed themselves on the road from the Mill that leads direct to oDell Town where they drove in a picket stationed in advance of La Cole about a mile & half distant and soon after the Enemy established a Battery of three Guns (12 Pounders) in the Wood. —with this Artillery they began to fire on the Mill.—when Major Handcock hearing of the arrival of the Flank Companies of the 13th Regiment at the Block house he ordered an attack on the Guns which however was not successful from the wood being so thick and so filled with men; soon after another opportunity presented itself when the Canadian Grenadier Company and a Company of the Voltigeurs attempted the Guns but the very great superiority of the Enemy's numbers hid in the woods prevented their taking them—I have to regret the loss of many brave & good Soldiers in these two attacks, and am particularly sorry to lose the services for a short time of Captain Ellard of the 13th Regiment from being wounded, while gallantly leading his Company.

The Enemy withdrew their Artillery towards night fall, and retired towards morning from the Mill taking the road to oDell Town.

Major Handcock speaks in high terms of obligation to Captain Ritter of the Frontier Light Infantry who from his knowledge of the country was of great benefit. The Marine detachment under Lieuts. Caldwell & Barton, The Canadian Grenadier Company, and the Company of Voltigeurs, as well as all the troops employed the Major expresses himself in high terms of praise for their conduct so honorable to the Service—

Major Handcock feels exceedingly indebted to Captain

Pring Royal Navy for his ready & prompt assistance in moving up the Sloop and Gun boats from Isle aux Noix to the entrance of the La Cole river, the fire from which was so distructive. Lieut. Creswick & Lieut. Hicks of the R.N. were most actively zealous in forwarding the Stores, and landing two Guns from the Boats and getting them up to the Mill.

To Major Handcock the greatest praise is due for his most gallant defence of the Mill against such superior numbers, and I earnestly trust it will meet the approbation of His Excellency, The Comr. of the Forces. I have the honor to transmit a list of the Killed & wounded of the British that of the Enemy from all accounts I can collect from the Inhabitants must have been far greater.

I have the honor to be
Sir/
Your most obedient
Humble Servant
WILLIAM WILLIAMS
Lieut. Col. 13th Regt.
Comg. at Saint Johns.

Major General Vincent
&c., &c., &c.
Chambly

Archives, Q. 127, p. 221.

(*Transcript from the original in the Public Record Office, London.*)

List of Killed and Wounded and Missing in Action at La Cole Mill on the 30th March 1814.

13th Grenadiers . .	8 Rank and File Killed.
	1 Captain, 1 Subaltern, 1 Serjeant, 31 Rank and File Wounded.
	1 Rank and File Missing.

13th Light Infanty	1 Rank and File Killed.
	1 Serjeant, 8 Rank and File Wounded.
	1 Rank and File Missing.
13th (Capt. Blake's Compy)	1 Rank and File Killed.
Canadian Grenadrs	1 Rank and File Killed.
	3 Rank and File Wounded.
	2 Rank and File Missing.
Canadian Voltigeurs	1 Rank and File Wounded.
Total	11 Rank and File Killed.
	1 Captain, 1 Subaltern, 1 Serjeant, 43 Rank and File Wounded.
	4 Rank and File Missing.
Officers Wounded	Captain Ellard and Ensign Whitford 13th Regiment (both slightly).

(Signed) R. B. Handcock
Major.

Note.—One Indian Warrior
Killed & one wounded.

A True Copy
Edward Baynes
Adjut. Genl. N.A.

Archives, C. 1171, p. 265.

G.O. Head Quarters, Montreal
9th May 1814.—

His Excellency the Governor in Chief and Commander of the Forces, is pleased to approve of the following

distribution, of the E. Militia of L. Canada, and Inspecting Field Officers. —

The 1st & 4th Battalions— .	Colonel Murray.—
2nd & 3rd Battalions— .	Lieut[t] Co[l]. Taylor.—
Voltigeurs—Canadian Chasseurs and Frontier Light Infantry . . .	Lieut[t] Co[l] De Salaberry.

The Inspecting Field Officers are required to transmit every Month, a Confidential Report of the State of Discipline, and enterior economy of each Battalion, stating the progress the Corps has made during that period.—They are themselves to muster the Battalions under their charge between the 24th and the last day of the Month, to ascertain by their Inspection the correctness of the Reg[l] Returns—and that the Pay M[rs] Estimates correspond with the effective Strength of the Corps actually present and doing duty—that the Men's Accts have been settled and the Balances paid by the Captains and Officers in the Command of Companies—and that the Militia Articles of War and General Orders have been read to the Officers and Men during the course of the Month.—The Inspecting Field Officers confidential report is to specify all these points and further to detail every circumstance of importance connected with the Discipline of the Batalion and is to be forwarded the 1st of every Month to the Adjutant General of the Forces, for the information of His Excellency.—

In consequence of the Release of Lieut[t] Co[l] Myers D[y] Q[r] M[r] General from his parole as Prisoner of War—he is directed to repair to the H[d] Q[rs] of the Center Division, and to assume the Duties of the Department after the 14th Instant—

L[t] Co[l] Drummond after delivering over the charge of the Department, will assume the Command of the 104th Regiment.—

H.E. The Governor General and Commander of the Forces, has had before him the proceedings of a Court of enquiry of which L^{t} C^{l} Voyer was President, held for the investigation of a Serious and most disgraceful affray which took place near the Quebec Barracks on the Ev^{g}. on the 2nd May.

It appears from the Evidence before the Court, that the Riot originated between two Soldiers, Private Dealon of the 49th Reg^{t}. and Private Cambray of the 1st B. E. Militia, no one witnessed the course of dispute, and they mutually accuse each other, of being the aggressor, without any provocation ;—improbable as this statement appears it is the less worthy of credit, on the part of Cambray, because it is proved, that he was much in Liquor and the Man with whom he fought, is a Wounded Invalid, deprived of the use of one of his Arms.—Serj^{t}. Chesney of the 49th Reg^{t} on learning that a Soldier of the 1st Battalion was fighting with, and ill using one of his Corps instantly went to the place, and in endeavoring to seperate the Combatants, was Struck down by a Serj^{t} of Militia and a Soldier of the Same Corps leaped upon him, and Struck him several Blows,—that after effecting his escape, he was irritated to say to the crowd of Militiamen, you are no Soldiers, or you would not stand and see an unfortunate man imposed upon, when he was instantly attacked by the Militia Man Cambray who was stript to his Shirt and who overcame him and got him down, and that while endeavoring to Rise, he was kicked in the Ribs by L^{t} Fortier of the 1st B^{n} E. Militia when rescued from them he went to the Orderly Room of the B^{n}. to make his complaint, was met at the door by L^{t} Fortier & L^{t} Brunet who refused him admittance, telling him to go to hell, and complain to whom he chose.—this Statement of Serj^{t}. Chesney is corroborated by the testimony of several evidences, nor is it materially invalidated by any—Serj^{t}. Baird of the 10th R.V.B. Serj^{t} Muller of the 2nd B^{n}. Militia.—

In viewing the occurrences detailed in the proceedings of the Court, it is with extreme Regret, His Excell^{y}. observes, that unbecoming Spirit of resentment, and revenge should have led the 1st B^{n} E. Militia to a most disgraceful breach of Discipline, in Acts of outrage, derogatory to the Character of a Soldier, and in no degree warranted by the Circumstances which led to the dishonorable occurrence.—

Intoxication which is generally the Cause of the Soldiers offence, pleads but little in the extinuation of his Crime, in this Instance however, His Excellency is willing to believe that there is no Militia man so base, who would deliberately and in his Sober Sences insult or ill treat a Soldier disabled by Wounds—no possible excuse can be offered for the Serjeant of Militia, who is represented to have Struck Serj^{t} Chesney when in the execution of his duty, he was endeavoring to seperate Dealon & Cambray, such Mil^{y} Persons as were looking on and did not afford assistance to the Serj^{t} have been culpable of great neglect, but such of them as opposed the Serj^{t} in his duty have been guilty of the most flagrant Breach of Discipline, and in conveying this censure, it is the most painful to His Excell^{y} to have to notice, that the enterference of some of the Officers of the Corps, instead of restoring that Order, which the presence of an Officer ought always to establish only tended to encrease and continue the Scene of shameful disorder that was committing—on this occasion L^{ts}. Fortier & Brunet were most conspicuous (altho' the former was on duty being Subaltern of the day) It appearing that they prevented two Serjeants of other Corps, from restoring that peace and Order which it was their imperious duty to perform themselves.—

In the prompt judicious and energetic discharge of the duty of the Officer (in his relative Station) depends the existance of the very Soul of Military Discipline, if he is supine the Service languishes : but if from error or a worse motive, he neglects and betrays his trust—he sacrafices that cause

which would bound by every principal of honor and duty to maintain, a proper dignity and correctness of Deportment in the Officer constitutes the first and Strongest Claim to Respect and implicit obedience from the Soldier—and he casts away that high prerogative of his Station, whenever he decends to use abusive Language or so far forgets his Rank as to resort to manual violence to enforce his Authority.—

The Officers who appear most culpable are L^ts^ Fortier & Brunet and Capt^n^ Rolette—Colonel Murray is directed to cause this Order to be read and distinctly explained to the 1^st^ B. E. Militia, that it may be fully sencible of the magnitude and dangerous tendancy of the Acts of insubordination that have been committed, and the disgrace that such conduct must entail upon the Corps—and he will publicly and severely reprimand Captain Rolette Lieut^ts^ Fortier & Brunette for the high breach of discipline of which they have been most conspicuously culpable—Colonel Murray is then permitted to release the Officers under Arrest, and direct them to Resume their Military Duties.—

(Signed) Edw^p^. Baynes,
Adj^t^ General—

Archives, C. 1171, p. 288.

G.O. Montreal
Adj^t^ Gen^ls^ Office 16^th^ June 1814

The Head Quarters of the Army Serving in the North American Provinces will be moved to Chambly on Sunday the 19^th^ Instant.—

The Establishment of the B^k^ Dep^t^ at the Post of Chambly and S^t^ Johns having been represented as inadequate to meet the encreased duties, The Com^r^ of the Forces has been pleased to appoint Acting Q^r^ M. Gray from the 89^th^ Reg^t^ to Act as an Ass^t^. D^y^. B^k^. M^r^. G^l^. and to take charge of the

Barrack Dep^{t} at Chambly and S^{t} Johns with the pay of 10/- A.S. per day and the usual allowances from the 25th Instant.—

. . . . . .

(Signed) E. Baynes
Adj^{t} General—

Archives, C. 1171, p. 290.

G.O. H^{d}.Q^{rs}. Chambly 21st June 1814

On the arrival of the Nova Scotia Fen^{s} at Quebec that Corps will be directed to proceed to William Henry in their Transports if practicable.—

The Head Quarter Detachment of the Royal Newfoundland Fencibles to be held in readiness to Embark on Board one of the Transports from Newfoundland or such other as may be ordered and to proceed to that Island.—

. . . . . .

(Signed) Edward Baynes
Adjutant General

Archives, C. 1171, p. 291.

G.O. Head Quarters
Chambly 22nd June 1814.—

His Excellency The Commander of the Forces is pleased to approve of the following distribution of the Officers of the General Staff and Corps forming the Left Division.—

Major General De Rottenburg to Command.

First Brigade of the Line Major G^{l} Conran
to consist of the

2nd B^{n}. 8th (or King's)
16th Regiment
Regiment De Meuron

Brigade of Militia Major G[l] De Watteville to consist of the

1st & 3rd Battalions & Canadian Chasseurs
of Embodied Militia.—

The 4th B[n]. E. Militia to Relieve the Canadian Fencibles at S[t] Philippe and the Posts occupied by that Corps on its removal to the Upper Province.—

Colonel Murray Inspecting Field Officer is appointed to the Superintendance of the 2nd & 4th B[ns] of Militia, and the Posts and Communications in advance comprised within the Road leading from L'Acadie to Odle Town or the Left—and is to establish his Head Q[rs]. at S[t] Philippe—

Lieut[t] C[l] Williams Com[s]. at S[t] Johns is charged with the General Superintendance of the Corps Stationed in advance on the Richelieu River, and on the L'Acadie Road, which are dependent on the Post of S[t] Johns.—

Major General Vincent is appointed to Command the Garrison of Montreal.—

(Signed) Edward Baynes
Adjutant General

Archives, C. 1171, p. 305.

G.O. H[d] Q[rs] Montreal 4th July 1814

It being expedient that an uniform System should be observed by all Troops employed on outpost duties, whether of Light Corps, or of the Line, The Com[r] of the Forces directs that the following rules and regulations be Strictly observed.—

On advanced Posts the Bayonet[s] are never to be fixed, as they form a Conspicuous object visible at a great distance, are an inconvenient incumbrance in the Woods, and from the nature of the duties of Light Troops can be rarely required, and never so suddenly but that the Soldier will have

ample time to fix his Bayonet, unless he is negligent in the first and most important of his duties—Vigilence.—

The firelock is to be carried by Sentries with the Barrel inward resting on the hollow of the Elbow, and for relief may be Shifted to either Arm, when a Stranger or Suspected Person approaches his Post, the Sentry is to raise his piece to the port, prepared to Cock, in that position he will ascertain who is approching, he will not suffer any one to come near enough to Spring upon him to seize his Arms, nor to loiter near his Post—when he ascertains that an Officer is passing, he is to carry his Arms advanced, stand steady on his post, looking towards the Enemy, or such point or Communication as may have been pointed out for his more particular attention.—

When a General or Com^{g}. Officer approaches Out Post Guards or Piquets, the party are to get under Arms and to form in that position which they would occupy in the event of their Post being attacked—their Arms advanced, no compliment to be paid, but the Officer or Serjeant Commanding reports his Guard, and any occurrences which may have taken place.—

It is to be Strongly impressed upon Troops in advanced Posts, and their detached Sentries: that the duties required of them are of the most important and Confidential nature, on their Vigilence and circumspection depends in a great degree the Safety of the Army—the first object of their attention must ever be, to Watch the movements of the Enemy, and to give timely notice of his approach—advanced Sentries are always to be posted double, if the Strength of the party will admit of it, and in case of any occurrence of importance, one of the Sentries is instantly to be sent in to report; every report is to be taken down in writing by the first Officer or intelligent Non Commissioned Officer who receives it, to prevent the errors so likely to occur from frequent repetition of verbal communications.—

Files or double Sentries are never to give their fire together when the one who has fired returns his ramrod, he gives the word to his Comrade ready.—

It is never expected of advanced Sentries, and but Seldom of advanced Posts, that they can materially check or retard the advance of the Enemy, they are therefore to be cautious not unnecessarily to sacrifice themselves in vain attempts, they are to retire as slowly as they can, consistant with the ultimate Security of their Retreat, Keeping up a constant fire for the double purpose of checking the enemy, and giving intelligence of his advance—the most advanced Sentries fall back upon each other in Succession, taking advantage of every favorable position to gall the Enemy in his advance, for which purpose every Officer ought to make himself perfectly acquainted with the Country he has to occupy, and to improve and Strengthen by every means in his Power, all the Strong features of defence it may present—these are to be defended in Succession, but not persevered in beyond their relative importance.—

The defeat of the Enemy at La Cole and Chateauguay, afford Brilliant examples of the efficacy of well established advanced Posts occupied with judgment, and defended with Valour.—

The Officers in Command of Posts that constitute the Reserve, or appui of those in advance, and are susceptible of receiving prompt and efficient Support, will always be provided with Specific Instructions for their Guidance.—

"(Signed) EDWARD BAYNES"
Adj[t] General

Archives, C. 1171, p. 317.

G.O. Montreal 21[st] July 1814—

. . . . . .

Major General Glasgow will cause two Companies of the 10[th] R.V.B. to embark for the purpose of relieving the

Companies of the 104th Regt. at Prince Edward Island, and Cape Breton—A Medical Officer is to proceed with this detachment for the purpose of Inspecting the Companies of the 104th Regiment and respectively transferring such Men as are unfit for Field Service, but capable of Garrison duty, into the relieving Company of the 10th R.V. Battalion.—

The Men fit for Active Service of the 104th Regiment and those requiring to be invalided, are to be brought to Quebec to be disposed of accordingly.—

(Signed) Edward Baynes
Adjut^t General—

NARRATIVE DOCUMENTS

GROUP X (*continued*)

OPERATIONS ON THE FRONTIERS, 1814

Lake Ontario: 4. Oswego, May 6, 1814

Archives, C. 731, p. 8.

From Yeo off Kingston to Prevost at ——.

His Majesty's Ship Wolfe at
Kingston, 8th October 1813

Sir/

Having heard that your Excellency has ordered a Vessel to be built independent of the Ship, I beg leave to suggest and recommend her being a little larger for reasons I will submit to your Excellency.

Mr Record, the Builder informs me the difference of expence would not exceed three hundred pounds, and that he can build the one or the other in the same time.

The Royal George from her general weak and defective State, I am certain cannot keep the sea much longer, without a thourough repair, the which would be attended with nearly as much expence and time as building a new Ship.

The Enemy I have no doubt (if they do not succeed in their designs on Upper Canada this year) will build another Ship capable of carrying heavy Metal, if they do, I have only to assure your Excellency that had I any number of Brigs, they would not be of the smallest service against Ships mounting such Metal.

I therefore much wish your Excellency would order her to be built by the following Dimensions—Vizt

Length of Keel . . .	110 feet.
Breadth Moulded . . .	36 Do
Depth of Hold . . .	10 Do

I have the Honor to be
with great respect
Sir/
Your Excellencys
most obedient
humble Servant
James . Lucas . Yeo.
Commodore.

Archives, C. 731, p. 76.

From Yeo at Kingston to Prevost at ——.

Kingston 25th October 1813

Sir/

In answer to Mr. Freers Letter to me of the 17th Instant, in which he informs me your Excellency is desirous to receive my sentiments upon the subject, of a secret Despatch from the Secretary of State to your Excellency.

I beg leave to inform you that I have drawn up a Scheme for Manning, His Majesty's Squadron in the Spring, which I have the Honor to enclose,—by which you can more clearly Judge what additional number of Seamen it will be absolutely necessary to have.

I have made it out upon the most moderate calculation, according to the number of Guns each Vessel will carry, your Excellency will observe I have reduced the complements of the present Squadron, as I shall make some alteration in their Guns, when the new Ships are finished,—I have not made any allowance for accidents and casualties, between this and the Spring, which ought to be kept in mind, nor have I noticed Lake Champlain in this Scheme.

I fear the additional number required will exceed what you could wish, but I am of opinion the service could not be executed with less.

I have the Honor to be
Sir/
your Excellencys
most obedient humble Servant
James. Lucas. Yeo. Commodore

[*Pencil Note.*] What Marines in addition to the Men of the RNfd Regt. are wanted

Lake Champlain not provided for in this Scheme—

Archives, C. 731, p. 78.

A Scheme of the Number of Seamen, necessary for Manning His Majesty's Squadron, on Lake Ontario.

Name of Ship or Vessel	No of long Guns to Man	No of Seamen to each long Gun	No of Carronades to Man	No of Seamen to each Carronade	Additional Seamen for Sail Trimmers &c^{a}	Total No of Seamen
New Ships 1 ——	15	13	8	7	15	266
New Ships 2 ——	12	12	5	7	8	187
Wolfe	3	10 10 12	8	8	8	104
Royal George	2	10 12	9	8	6	100
Melville	,,	,,	7	8	4	60
Moira	,,	,,	7	6	8	50
Sir Sidney Smith	,,	,,	6	7	4	46
Beresford	1	15	3	5	5	35
						848

Total Number of Ab., Ord, and Landmen now in the Squadron 460

Total Number of Ab., Ord, and Landmen now in the Gun Boat Establishment 125

Number of Men wanted to Complete the Squadron . 388

To Man 8 Gun Boats, 25 Men each 200, N°. of Men wanted 75

Total N°. of Seamen Wanted . . 463

James . Lucas . Yeo.
Commodore

Archives, C. 731, p. 143.

From Yeo at Kingston to Prevost at ——.

Wolfe Kingston 29th Novr. 1813

Sir,

I have received a letter from Sir John Warren & as there are some points in the letter (particularly relative to a New Naval Force on Lake Erie) which I could wish Your Excellency's opinion on, I have the honor to enclose a copy of the same. I am given to understand from those who possess the best local knowledge of the Country, that should the Enemy winter their Squadron on Lake Erie at Presque Isle or Amherstburg, it would be practicable to destroy them—On this subject I have no doubt Your Excellency has, or will when less occupied turn Your serious attention & I only have to assure You that I shall feel highly honored by any advice or suggestion Your Excellency is pleased to communicate & to offer my services in any way You may judge best for the good of the Service.

I am also informed from the best authority that Turkey & Long Points combine every possible advantage for Building Victualling the Troops, & safety of the Harbour—that at any time the Timber can be cut down, (close to the spot,) by the People of the Country, ready for the Shipwright to work on.

I am of opinion that in the spring We shall be able to spare the greatest part of the Shipwrights from this Yard & that two or three fine Brigs to carry long 18s. might soon be run up & be sufficient to regain the superiority on that Lake.—that is if we destroy any part of their Squadron this Winter.

The Shipwrights at this Yard appear to Work with great good will & spirits & I am of opinion that if we could obtain more workmen the service will go on as well, if not better without Mr. Goudie—as even his own men are much dissatisfied with His Conduct.

The first opportunity I request Your Excellency will cause the Canvass & Twine for making the Sails for the New Ships to be forwarded: & the sooner the Engineer begins making the Gun Carriages the better. I wish all the 32nd Carrs. Carriages to be Block-train.

I request Your Excellency will excuse my representing to You that the Public Service suffer's materially from my letters remaining at Quebec, to come by the ordinary post—particularly Communications from Halifax—as it makes a difference of ten & sometimes fifteen days—Sir John's Order for the Indian to join him is I fear arrived too late to be complied with.

I beg leave to suggest whether it will not be advisable to request any additional Seamen we may want—may be sent from England instead of Halifax—as the first arrivals from the latter place are always so very late in the spring.

The Iron Work for the New Ships that Captain O'Conor has requested may be made at Quebec & Montreal, I beg Your Excellency will give orders to have expedited, as otherwise it will occasion great delay.

Captain Marlow thinks it would be advisable to order the Iron-trucks for the Gun Carriages to be cast at the Three Rivers.

I have received a letter from a Mr. Jackson late second Lieutenant of the Wolwich requesting my approval to an appointment I have not heard anything about.

I think it my duty to inform Your Excellency that I know him to be a Gambler & consequently not a person I should place much trust in.

I have the honor to be with the highest respect,

Sir

Your Excellency's

Most obedient humble Servant

James. Lucas. Yeo.

Archives, C. 731, p. 169.

From Yeo at Kingston to Prevost at ——.

His Majesty's Ship Wolfe, at
Kingston 6th Decr 1813

Sir

I beg leave to suggest to your Excellency whether it would not be highly benificial to the Service, to send an intelligent Officer, to Sir John Warren, who having a thourough Knowledge of every thing that is going on here, could point out and explain the necessity of the Seamen's being sent to this Country without a moments loss of time—they should be at Kingston by the beginning of April, as I am certain every thing else will be ready, and it would be dreadful to have such a Squadron inactive from the Seamen not being here in time.

If your Excellency should approve of my suggestion, I beg leave to recommend Mr. Scott my first Lieutenant, as the bearer of any Despatches you may think proper to charge him with. Mr. Scott is an active intelligent Officer, Known to Sir John Warren and who has traveled that road before, consequently very well qualified to conduct the Seamen across to Quebec.

Captain Popham, not having joined me, and my not being informed what number of his party Your Excellency has ordered to Lake Champlain, I am unable to judge what additional strength I am likely to receive from what I am told are a fine body of Men.—Out of our present number we have fifty at the Hospital, near forty at the Cauta . Du . lac, and I must naturally expect several of Captain Mulcasters' Men will return unserviceable.

I am therefore of opinion that we shall require at least 200, or 250, Men from Halifax, particularly if we are to keep up our Gun Boat Establishment, which will most likely be absolutely necessary.

I also enclose your Excellency the Copy of a Letter, I received a few days since from Commodore Chauncey.

I have the Honor to be
Sir/
your Excellencys
most obedient
humble Servant
JAMES. LUCAS. YEO. Commodore

Archives, C. 731, p. 172.

From Yeo at Kingston to Prevost at ——.

Wolfe Kingston 11th December 1813

Sir,

I have this day had a long conference with Lieut[t]. Le Briton who is just Arrived from Lake Erie every part of which he has visited And in my opinion much to the purpose—He appears to be a very clear headed intelligent Officer & from what he has pointed out I think their Naval force at Presque Isle can be destroyed & the Detroit & Queen Charlotte retaken & got safe to Long Point.

The Detroit & Queen Charlotte He left *Moored for the Winter* in Put in Bay—with only a few Men to guard them—this place cannot be approached in the Winter & if we got possession of them in the Spring they have not a Mast standing consequently would run the risk of being cut off by the Enemy's small Vessels out of Presque Isle—It therefore becomes a necessity (in my opinion) to take Presque Isle first—Cut off their communication at the same time with Put in Bay—destroy their large Vessels & proceed immediately in their small Ones to the two ships, which w[d] fall with little or no resistance & from its being an Island they could not receive any reinforcements in time—should

the Enemy destroy their small Vessels at Presque Isle—our Boats w[d] be equal to perform this Service.

The principal difficulty of this Enterprise—is obtaining sufficient transport to convey a force equal to the Service, particularly as it must be created in a few hours & with great secrecy—Yet this I think could be accomplished with great exertion & circumspection.

Four hundred Troops & two hundred Seamen would be sufficient—perhaps less.

I would propose (for this number of Men) fourteen Boats all of the same dimensions, these Boats to be built at Kingston—As in my opinion the only place to prevent suspicion.—

I have a Model of a Boat making. My idea is to have the frame of the Boat, as light as possible to go with bolts & screws—the outside to be covered with hides instead of Plank—which cover is to be made exactly to fit the bottom of the Boat & can be put on in a few hours—these hide covers when made, can be forwarded by the Commissary to Yorke or Burlington in the Winter without people knowing what they are. Oars can also be made at Yorke, said to be intended for this Yard. My reason for being so particular about the Boats—is to enable us to have our flotilla created & ready for embarkation in two or three days—As the expedition remaining any time at Long point must lead to suspicion & possibly defeat our object—for the same reason I think any Boats, being ordered to be built at that place would be attended with the same evil.—The Enemy can never suspect us—as long as he supposes we are destitute of transport on that Lake—On the Seamen leaving this it might be given out that they were going to Lakes Simcoe & Huron by which their true destination could not be discovered until they had left Yorke—if even then—I would recommend the Seamen leaving this sufficiently early to be at Long point by the time the navigation is open—which I am given to understand is always earlier than this Lake—if so—that

Service could be accomplished & the Seamen return to Kingston by the time this Squadron were ready to take the Lake.

Presque Isle is open to attack in the Winter—but if we were successful it would immediately put them on their guard at Put in Bay.

Your Excellency must feel such Anxiety about our regaining the Naval superiority on Lake Erie—that I will not speak of its importance but I am persuaded that if we do not take & destroy their force by stratagem it will be long ere we have one equal to meet them on the Lake—in the mean time they will be able to employ their force on Lakes S^{t}. Clair, Huron &c

It would have been highly gratifying to me, had it been possible to see Your Excellency on this interesting Subject but as it is otherwise—I request Your Excellency will favor me with Your opinion, Suggestions, & advice—As be assured Sir nothing will give me more real pleasure than to meet Your wishes & merit Your Confidence.

Lieutenant Marjoribanks returned from Sacketts Harbour Yesterday & reports that He could only see two square rigged Vessels in the Harbour—which he believes to be the Pike & Onida & not the Maddison—The Officer told him that we had two Ships building one of 60 & the other of 24 Guns—that they were building two of forty Guns each & that General Harrison has left Sacketts for Washington.

I have the Honor to remain with the highest respect

Sir

Your Excellencys

Most obedient

humble Servant

JAMES . LUCAS . YEO.

Archives, C. 731, p. 181.

From Prevost at Montreal to Yeo at ——.

Montreal 17th Decr. 1813

Sir/

I have had the honor of your letter of the 10th inst. & shall fully communicate to you as you desire my ideas upon the plan you have therein suggested for the capture or destruction of the Enemys fleet on Lake Erie—In the first place I very much fear supposing all the other circumstances to be arranged according to your wishes that you have miscalculated upon the time when Lake Erie will become navigable as well as upon that which under the most favorable circumstances it will require to accomplish your object & in which should you be mistaken the return to Kingston of the Seamen employed in the expedition will probably be delayed beyond the period when Your Squadron may be ready to take the Lake—important as it certainly is to us to regain the ascendency on Lake Erie You must have already observed from my former communication to you that it is with me but a secondary object to that of ensuring our superiority on Lake Ontario which once firmly established will materially facilitate all our plans & operations for the other Lake—

I wish you therefore to consult with Lt. Genl. Drummond & maturely to consider whether the object you have in view is to be attained without the sacrifice of higher interests.

If after obtaining every possible information from the most correct sources the General & Yourself should agree in opinion on the probability of the success of your plan without risking any material delay in the early operations for Lake Ontario I have no objections to its being carried into execution.—

I would however suggest to you whether the Boats might not be as well built at York as at Kingston as by that means you would save the transportation of them the distance of 200 miles—their object would be equally concealed from the Enemy at that place as at Kingston—or a variety of services might be assigned for them to remove any suspicion of their being intended for Lake Erie—the oars also it appears to me might be prepared at Burlington—as it is of first importance that your propositions should be kept from the knowledge of the Enemy You will of course have that object constantly in view & be governed by it in the choice of your place for building your boats & in making your other arrangements giving every suggestion on this head, the weight, which after full consideration they may merit.

[*Not signed.*]

Archives, C. 682, p. 49.

From Drummond at Kingston to Prevost at ——.

Kingston, January 25th 1814.—

Sir,

I have the honor to acquaint Your Excellency, that I have received a Report from Major General Riall, dated the 14th Instt. stating, that two Militia Men, Isaac Ryan, and Andrew Hearn, taken Prisoners about 7 months since, had just arrived at Niagara; having made their escape from Greenbush; where they had been confined with about 320 other Regular, and Militia, Soldiers.—

They passed through Sackett's Harbour, last Thursday week.

They confirm the account of the march of Troops, from that place, to Salmon River: and say, that there are no Troops, at Sackett's Harbour, but the Seamen, & Carpenters; who were employed in building three Brigs, as they were

told.—And they declare, there is no other force there than what they mention.—

About 50 or 60 other Prisoners effected their escape, from Greenbush, at the same time, by undermining the Prison.—

I beg leave to communicate the substance of other intelligence I received this day, viz. That Sleighs are collecting at Sackett's Harbour, to the number of 200; and were to rendezvous there on Saturday morning last, at an early hour; for the purpose of loading Provisions for the Army at Salmon River; at least such was the report in circulation. But better informed persons believe, that they were collected for some Military Movement; and think it more than probable, that the evacuation of the Position at French Mills is in contemplation; and that the Troops, and Stores, will be sent from thence to Sackett's Harbour, to secure the Ships, to be built there.

The effective Force at the former place is said to be about 2000; at the latter it does not exceed 600 men.—

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Excellency's
Most obedient,
humble servant,
GORDON DRUMMOND
L^t. General

Archives, C. 682, p. 120.

From Drummond at York to Prevost at ——.

Secret. York, Feb 19th 1814.—

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's letter of the 8th Instant.—

Your Excellency will have already perceived, by my letter

of the 3rd Instant, that, with very great reluctance I have found it totally impracticable, from the lateness of the Season, and the unusually mild weather during the entire of this winter, to make an attempt, with any reasonable hope of success, against the Enemy's Vessels, upon Lake Erie, and their Force at Detroit.—

The observations contained in Your Excellency's letter of the 29th Ultimo have been realized. And I have been most fully and most amply justified in the reluctant decision, I made, at that time, by the present state of the weather.—For the last four days past, the Thaw has been so considerable, that many of the oldest inhabitants of this Province, which at all times differs so much in it's climate from the Lower one, are almost induced to believe, that, even at this early period, the winter is fast breaking up.—The Snow has been hitherto but very thin upon the ground ; and the bordage upon Lake Erie never so strong or sound as to render a passage upon it to Put in Bay sufficiently safe.—

I, therefore, do not hesitate in declaring to Your Excellency, that any attempt against the Enemy's Vessels on Lake Erie, or their Force at Detroit, is, at present, totally impracticable, as well from the unusual mildness of the weather, as from the lateness of the season.—

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Excellency's
most obedient,
humble servant,
Gordon Drummond
Lt. General

Archives, C. 683, p. 1.

From Drummond at Kingston to Prevost at ——.

Secret & Confidential.

Kingston. April 2nd 1814.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's letter of the 24th Ultimo, marked Private & Confidential, enclosing the Copy of a letter from Mr. Monroe, to Brigadier General Winder, of the United States' Army, on the subject of an Armistice; on which Your Excellency desires my sentiments.—

I beg leave respectfully to submit as my opinion, that the object of Mr. Monroe's letter is twofold. First, To gain time for organizing their Naval and Military Force. Second, To cause the proposal for the Armistice, (the discussion of which is to afford that time,) to originate with Your Excellency.—

Unless Your Excellency is in possession of some other pledge than General Winder's assurances of the sincerity of his Government, I should place but little faith in them; as I have ever understood that Officer to be one of the most strenuous supporters of the War; and withall the most plausible, therefore the most dangerous, Agent, the American Government could employ in this Country.—

If the American Government be sincerely desirous of a cessation of hostilities, I conceive, that it arises from the consideration, that the advantages to be derived from a continuance of them are, at least, doubtful; or more probably, that, on the opening of the ensuing Campaign, they will decidedly be on our side.—

We should be extremely cautious in doing anything, the tendency of which may derogate from the high ground, on which His Majesty's Government stands, by affording the

Enemy the smallest reason to infer, that any diffidence of our ability to defend these Provinces has a secret influence in deciding us, to court, or even too willingly to meet, his advances for a cessation of hostilities.—

Respecting the motives that should influence Your Excellency to any discussion of a pacific nature; although I admit, the communication between Coteau du Lac, and Kingston, may be liable to occasional interruption; yet I do not consider it so much so, as to cause any serious apprehension.—That between Kingston and Niagara can only be interrupted, in the event of the Enemy acquiring the superiority on Lake Ontario.—And the accompanying Deposition, on Oath, of a person lately from Sackett's Harbour, affords strong grounds for hope, that the Enemy's Marine, at that place, will not soon, if ever, acquire, that degree of force alluded to in Your Excellency's letter.—The whole of the advantages, therefore, to be derived from the Armistice will be reaped by the Enemy.—

It is impossible, at present, to ascertain, to which side the Naval superiority on the Lake will preponderate, on the opening of the Navigation; unless full credit can be attached to the enclosed Deposition: when, if so, the superiority will decidedly be on our side; and, at all events, we have, in my opinion, as much right to look for it's possession, as the Enemy.—

Should an opportunity offer, by even a temporary naval superiority, for the destruction of the Enemy's Fleet, and Arsenal, at Sackett's Harbour, a vigorous combined attack by the Navy, and Army, would be highly adviseable: yet it must be remembered, that the Squadron will be required to perform another most important service, as soon as the season opens, viz. the pushing of Troops, (the 103rd Regt. and the Glengary Light Infantry,) Stores, &c, &c, to the relief of Fort Niagara, and the Right Division.

The latest information I have received, respecting the

Enemy's Squadron, has been from the accompanying Document.—

Our two new Ships, Sir James Yeo informs me, he is in hopes to launch, on the 9th Instant, if the Ice permits; and they will be in readiness, with the other Vessels, immediately after the opening of the navigation.—

It is highly satisfactory to know, that the Interests of the Indians will not be forgotten in any arrangement, which may take place.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Excellency's
Most obedient,
humble Servant,
GORDON DRUMMOND
Lt. General

Archives, C. 683, p. 8.

From Drummond at Kingston to Prevost at ——.

Kingston. April 5th 1814.

Sir,

The necessity of an additional number of Marines for the Service of the Squadron having been represented to me by Commodore Sir James Yeo; and, in fact, the impossibility of it's leaving Port without them having been so strongly urged by that Officer; I have felt myself imperiously called upon, to give every assistance in my power for gaining the naval superiority on the Lake, that I have considered it indispensably necessary to the safety of this Province, to accede to the Commodore's solicitation; and I have, in consequence, directed two Companies of the Marines to proceed immediately from Fort Wellington to this place; and the

two Companies of the 89th Regt. under Major Clifford, from Cornwall, to replace them; on whose arrival at Fort Wellington, the remaining two Companies of the Marines are to march for Kingston.—

I beg leave, therefore, to suggest to Your Excellency, that the 89th Regt. complete, be ordered to Fort Wellington; whereby, Lieutenant Colonel Morrison being Senior to Lieutenant Colonel Pearson, the latter Officer would become disposeable for service with the Right Division, where an Officer of Lieutenant Colonel Pearson's intelligence, zeal, and ability, is very particularly wanting, and the two Companies of the 103rd Regt. would become efficient with their Corps.—The 89th Regt. at Coteau du Lac can be replaced by a Regiment of Embodied Militia, or such other Corps as Your Excellency may find disposeable.—

I do not conceive that the entire of the Marines will be required on board the Squadron, at the same time; yet I consider it highly necessary, that they should be upon the spot to fill up vacancies, arising from every description of casualties, as they occur.—

And I must again take the liberty of pressing on Your Excellency's observation, the inadequacy of the Force for the security of this all-important Place, as soon as the 103rd Regt. shall be removed from hence; and should I find it necessary to detach also the Glengary Light Infantry.—

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Excellency's
Most obedient,
humble Servant,
GORDON DRUMMOND
Lt. General

Archives, C. 683, p. 19.

From Yeo at Kingston to Prevost at ——.

Kingston U. Canada 13th April 1814.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's letter of the 7th Inst. requesting my opinion respecting an overture for an Armistice offered by the American Government—together with the information obtained from a Person recently from Sacketts Harbour—which Your Excellency is disposed to consider as correct —which You wish me to compare with my former statement to You (I perceive it corroborates that statement) And which You wish should assist my judgement in the Answer I am about to give.

After the most deliberate consideration I am of opinion, that, as far as relates to Naval operations—It is by no means certain the Enemy will have the advantage at the commencement of the Campaign—And the reinforcement of Seamen & supply of Stores—which His Majesty's Government mean so promptly to assist us with, will, I have no doubt, enable us to regain the ascendency on this Lake.

The Third Ship, now building is, I believe, of far greater force than any the Enemy can launch at Sacketts Harbour—And doubts have arisen as to the practicability of launching the large Ship now ready,—as will appear by the accompanying deposition of the Carpenter of the Madison.—But, even admitting the Enemy are able to launch their large Ship & have received the whole of their Guns & stores (of which I entertain a doubt) we never have been so competent to engage them with a reasonable prospect of success as at present ;—For, altho' the Enemy have a greater number of Guns of heavy calibre—Yet, my having two Ships of such effective strength as the Prince Regent & Princess Charlotte closely to support each other may give me an advantage in

the early part of an Action,—which I feel confident, the talents of the Officers & spirit of the Men under my Command would immediately avail themselves of.—I perceive two of the Enemy's new Vessels are *Brigs*—and, however formidable they may be as to *weight of Metal*, should any accident befall their Gaff or Main Boom—they become for the time unmanageable.—Brigs have never been esteemed so effective as Ships in Battle.—In short, Sir, I am fully persuaded, that, with the means I now possess—together with those the Government mean to place at my disposal—I shall be able either to bring Chauncey to a decisive action—or—should I find him too superior—(for I cannot rely on his strength until I see His Squadron) manonvre with Him until the third Ship is ready—And which Vessel I look upon to be of a description to look down all opposition. In the interim of this Ship being ready—the reinforcement of Seamen can be placed in heavy Gun Boats that may effectually assist me during the Calms at the commencement of the season.

These considerations induce me to be decidedly of opinion that were Your Excellency to accept of the proposed Armistice—it would neither conduce to the credit of His Majesty's Government or the Honor of His Arms ;—While it would enable the Enemy to gain time for launching & equipping more Ships—augmenting & concentrating His Forces & bringing them to bear (should a rupture of the Armistice ensue—a measure, I fear, from the known enmity & insincerity of the American Government, too likely to occur) with redoubled force against us.

I have the honor to be with the highest respect

Sir

Your Excellency's

Most obedient

humble Servant,

James Lucas Yeo.

Commodore

Archives, C. 683, p. 25.

From Drummond at Kingston to Prevost at ——.

Kingston. April 15th 1814.—

Sir,

I have the honor to acquaint Your Excellency, that, in compliance with my desire, Commodore Sir James Yeo directed His Majesty's Schooner, Beresford, to receive on board such Detachment of Troops as she could accommodate, for a passage to the Head of the Lake.—That Vessel, in consequence, sailed, yesterday morning, from hence, with a leading wind, for Niagara, with the Grenadier Company of the 103rd Regt. and a proportion of Rocketteers, with a supply of Rockets ; and an 18 Pounder.—

I have peculiar satisfaction in communicating to Your Excellency, that the two new Ships, (the Prince Regent, and Princess Charlotte,) were launched yesterday, in a very superior style, without any accident occurring.—

The Commodore thinks they will be fit for Sea, in the course of ten days ; but I cannot imagine, until about the 1st of the ensuing month.—

I have the honor to be,
Sir, Your Excellency's
Your most obedient,
humble Servant,
Gordon Drummond
Lt. General

Archives, C. 683, p. 47.

Unsigned draught of Answer from Sir George Prevost to General Macomb's Letter dated Headquarters of the Army of the United States, Plattsburg, April 25, 1814.

Sir

I have had the honor to receive your letter of the 25th Instt. acquainting me that the Government of the U.S.—

had appointed an officer of rank to meet the person I should appoint on the part of the British Government, to discuss & arrange an Armistice & that the village of Champlain is proposed as the place of conference.

In reply I have the honor to inform you that an officer of rank of the British Army will be sent to the place you have mentioned in the course of the first day of May next.

I have the honor to be

Archives, C. 683, p. 57.

From Drummond at Kingston to Prevost at ——.

Kingston 27th April 1814

Sir/

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellencys Letter of the 23rd inst. enclosing a plan of a combined attack proposed to be made on the Enemys fleet at Sacketts Harbour, to which I have given that serious attention which the great importance of the subject demands.

By my Letter to Your Excellency of yesterdays date, written prior to the arrival of your dispatches, you will perceive that I had already in a great measure anticipated Your Excellencys views with regard to the imperious necessity which exists for an immediate attempt to distroy the Enemys fleet, at the same time that I stated what I now beg leave to repeat, that in my opinion a force of not less than 4000 effective troops would be essentially necessary to ensure a reasonable hope of success, as from the latest information I have been enabled to collect, not only the Defences have been much strengthened and multiplied by the erection of Block Houses, but the Garrison does not consist of less than 1800 Regular Troops, with constant reinforcements of Recruits, besides there are between 1500 & 2000 Seamen.

Previously to the receipt of Your Excellencys commands,

I had had a communication with Sir James Yeo relative to the expediency of a combined attack on the Enemys fleet. I also in compliance with your wishes, had this morning a conference with him on the same subject, when I submitted to him Your Excellencys Letter, and its accompanying Document.

Sir James entirely coincides in opinion with me, that the force to be brought against the place ought to be at least what I have before stated.

Enclosed I have the honor to lay before Your Excellency a Statement of the Force & Means that I presume can be collected within my Command, by which you will observe, that it is necessary a reinforcement should be sent from other quarters of the Province to make up the number specified.

In addition to the operation in agitation against Sacketts Harbour I conceive that a successful attack on their great Naval Depot at Oswego would nearly if not altogether circumscribe the proceedings of the Enemy, because should we be so fortunate as to distroy the Stores &c that are now collected there, for the use of the Fleet, it is very improbable they could shew themselves on the Lake for some time at least.

I propose giving Sir James Yeo an adequate number of Troops, to cooperate with him for the accomplishment of this desireable object, as soon after the Squadron can put to sea, as possible.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Excellencys
Most Obedient
Humble Servant
GORDON DRUMMOND
L[t] General

Archives, G. 399.

From Prevost at Montreal to Drummond at Kingston.

Montreal 30 April 1814

Sir,

The Subject of your letter of the 23^{d} instant, was in a great degree replied to by anticipation in the communication which I made to you on the same day—

In your dispatch of the 26th which has this moment been brought to me, I perceive a more decided Opinion on the contemplated movement against Sackett's harbour—You consider the land force to be employed on this Service, should not be less than four thousand effective Rank and file, to afford a reasonable hope of success—In order to render so many men disposable at Kingston, I ought to augment Your present force there to at least five thousand effective, an increase little calculated to diminish the great difficulties under which you are labouring for Provisions and forage to maintain a much smaller number—

But the fact is, that the force in this country is insufficient to enable me to concentrate at any one point in Upper Canada, the number of regulars you require for this important Service, without Stripping Lower Canada of nearly the whole of those that are at present in it, and committing its defence to Provincials and Militia—The views of His Majesty's Government respecting the mode of conducting the War with America, do not justify my exposing too much on one Stake—It is by wary measures and occasional daring enterprizes with apparently disproportionate means, that the character of the War has been sustained, and from that policy I am not disposed to depart.

From a presumption that the Government of the United States is animated by a Sincere desire of an Armistice, under a firm belief that the negociation commenced at Gottenburg

will terminate in peace, I have been induced to accede to the President's proposal of appointing an Officer of Rank to discuss and arrange tomorrow, at the Village of Champlain on the part of His Majesty's Government, with a Similar person on the part of the American Government, the Articles of a Suspension of Arms—This circumstance renders it inexpedient that an extensive offensive movement against any of the Enemy's Positions should be undertaken until You shall again hear from me on the Subject—I do not feel disposed to give Credit to the whole of M^r. Constant Bacon's deposition.—The circumstances may be true, but they are exaggerated, and in one instance, I see much improbability in the Statement; however it is satisfactory to know that Major Gen^l Riall is fully prepared against any enterprize—The Commissary General has the most positive orders to forward Provisions to Upper Canada as expeditiously as possible—

You will please to communicate to Commodore Sir James Yeo, the Subject of this letter, but I do not wish it to restrain him from any operations he may have in view until the Armistice shall be officially announced—

I have the honor to be,
&c^ra
George Prevost

Archives, C. 788, p. 11.

From Lt.-Col. Williams, Royal Marines, at Isle Aux Noix to Prevost at ——.

Isle aux Noix May 2^d 1814

Sir

I have the honor to enclose the Copy of a letter which I have received from the Lord Commissioners of the Admiralty, directing me to dissolve the 2^d Battalion of Roy^l Marines and having appropriated to the Lake Service such a

proportion of that Battalion as Sir James Yeo might require, to incorporate the surplus, if any, in the Battalion under my command.

I enclose likewise for your Excellency's approval, the communication which I make to Sir James Yeo on the subject, and the Instructions which I give to L^t^ Col^l^ Malcolm.

The Detachment intended for the Squadron upon Lake Champlain under the Command of Capt Pring will be furnished from the 2^d^ Battalion; in the interim an equal number from the 1^st^ Battalion is in constant readiness to embark.

I have the honor to be, Sir
Your Excellency's
Most obedient
humble Servant
R: Williams
L^t^ Col Comm^g^

Archives, C. 788, p. 9.

From Croker at Admiralty Office to Lieutenant Colonel Williams, Royal Marines, Canada.

Copy/ Admiralty Office
27^th^ January 1814—

Sir

I am Commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to signify their directions to you, to take the necessary measures for causing the Second Battalion of the Royal Marines which Sir George Provost will be directed to place at the disposal of Commodore Sir James Lucas Yeo, (excepting the Artillery Company) to be broken up, and such Number of Men from the said Battalion as may be necessary for furnishing the Marine Complements of the Ships now on the Lakes of Canada or intended to be sent thither, to be appropriated to them according to Sir James

Yeo's requisition, incorporating the surplus if any in the 1st Battalion under your Command.—

The Staff of the second Battalion and the Captains not wanted for the Lake Service, or belonging to the Artillery Company are to proceed forthwith after the dissolution of the said Battalion to join Vice Admiral Sir Alexander Cochrane, Commander in Chief of His Majestys Ships and Vessels on the North American Station, and follow his orders for their further proceedings :—

I am Sir
Your Most Obedient
Humble Servant,
J W Croker—

Archives, C. 683, p. 105.

From Drummond off Oswego to Prevost at ——.

His Majesty's Ship Prince Regent
off Oswego, Lake Ontario, May 7th 1814

Sir,

I am happy to have to announce to Your Excellency the compleat success of the Expedition against Oswego.

The Troops mentioned in my Despatch of the 3rd Inst viz. Six Companies of the De Watteville Regiment, under Lieut Colonel Fischer, the Light Company of the Glengary Light Infantry under Captain McMillan, and the whole of the 2nd Battn Royal Marines under Lieut Colonel Malcolm, having been embarked with a Detachment of the Royal Artillery under Captain Cruttenden, with two Field Pieces ; a Detachment of the Rocket Company under Lieutenant Stevens, and a Detachment of Sappers and Miners under Lieutenant Gosset of the Royal Engineers, on the evening of the 3rd Instant, I proceeded on board the Prince Regent at Daylight on the 4th and the Squadron immediately sailed—

The Wind being variable, we did not arrive off Oswego until noon, the following day. The Ships lay to, within long Gun shot of the Battery, and the Gun boats under Captain Collier, were sent close in, for the purpose of inducing the Enemy to shew his fire, and particularly the number and position of his Guns—this service was performed in a most gallant manner, the Boats taking a position within point blank shot of the Fort, which returned the fire from Four Guns, one of them *heavy*—The Enemy did not appear to have any Guns mounted on the Town side of the River—

Having sufficiently reconnoitred the place, arrangements were made for its attack, which, it was decided, should take place at Eight oClock that evening; but at Sunset a very heavy Squall blowing directly on the Shore, obliged the squadron to get under weigh, and prevented our return until the next morning; when the following disposition was made of the Troops and Squadron, by Commodore, Sir James Yeo, and myself—The Princess Charlotte, Wolfe, and Royal George to engage the Batteries, as close as the depth of Water would admit of their approaching the shore; The Sidney Smith Schooner to scour the town, and keep in check a large body of Militia, who might attempt to pass over to the Fort.—The Moira and Melville Brigs to tow the Boats with the Troops, and then cover their landing, by scouring the woods on the low point towards the foot of the hill, by which it was intended to advance to the assault of the Fort—Captain OConnor had the direction of the Boats and Gunboats destined to land the troops, which consisted of the Flank Companies of the De Watteville Regiment, the Company of the Glengary Light Infantry, and the 2nd Batt^{n} of the Royal Marines, being all that could be landed at one embarkation. The four Battalion Companies of the Regiment of De Watteville, and the Detachment of Artillery remaining in reserve on board the Princess Charlotte, and Sir Sidney Smith Schooner—

As soon as every thing was ready, the Ships opened their fire, and the Boats pushed for the point of Disembarkation, in the most regular order. The Landing was effected under a heavy fire from the Fort, as well as from a considerable Body of the Enemy drawn up on the Brow of the Hill, and in the Woods. The immediate command of the Troops was entrusted to Lieutenant Colonel Fischer of the Regiment of De Watteville, of whose gallant cool, and judicious conduct, as well as of the distinguished bravery, steadiness and discipline of every Officer and soldier composing this small force, I was a witness, having, with Commodore Sir James Yeo, the Deputy Adju^{t} General, and the officers of my Staff, landed with the Troops—

I refer Your Excellency to Lieut^{t}. Colonel Fischers Letter enclosed, for an Account of the operations—The place was gained in ten minutes, from the moment the Troops advanced. The Fort being every where almost open, the whole of the Garrison, consisting of the 3rd Battalion of Artillery, about 400 strong, and some hundred Militia effected their escape, with the exception of about Sixty Men, half of them severely wounded, who fell into our hands—The loss of the Enemy could not have been less than one hundred in killed and wounded—

I enclose a return of our loss, amongst which I have to regret that of Captain Holtaway of the Royal Marines—Your Excellency will lament to observe in this list, the name of that gallant, judicious and excellent officer, Captain Mulcaster of the Royal Navy, who landed at the head of 200 Volunteer Seamen from the Fleet, & received a severe and dangerous wound, when within a few yards of the Guns, which he was advancing to storm, which I fear will deprive the squadron of his valuable assistance for some time, at least.

In noticing the cooperation of the Naval Branch of the Service, I have the highest gratification in assuring Your

Excellency that I have throughout this, as well as on every other occasion, experienced the most zealous, cordial, and able Support from Sir James Yeo—it will be for him to do justice to the merits of those under his command ; but I may, nevertheless be permitted to observe that nothing could exceed the coolness and gallantry in action, or the unwearied exertions on Shore of the Captains, Officers and Crews of the whole squadron—

To the high honor of both branches of the service ; I have to draw Your Excellency's notice to the gratifying fact, that not a single Soldier or Sailor is reported missing ; nor did I observe one of either Service in a state of intoxication, altho surrounded by temptation.

I enclose a Memorandum of the captured articles that have been brought away, in which Your Excellency will perceive with satisfaction Seven heavy Guns, that were intended for the Enemy's new Ship—Three 32 Pounders were sunk by the Enemy in the river, as well as a large quantity of Cordage, and other naval Stores ; the loss to them, therefore, has been very great, and I am sanguine in believing that by this blow, they have been deprived of the means of compleating the armament, and particularly the equipment of their large Man of War—an object of the greatest importance—

Every object of the Expedition having been effected, and the captured stores embarked, the Troops returned in the most perfect order on board their respective ships, at 4 oClock this morning, when the Squadron immediately sailed ; the Barracks in the Town, as well as those in the Fort having been previously burnt, together with the platforms, Bridge, &c, and the works, in every other respect, dismantled and distroyed, as far as was practicable—

I cannot close this despatch, without offering to Your Excellency's notice, the admirable and judicious manner in which Lieu[t] Colonel Fischer formed the troops, and led

them to the attack—The Cool and gallant conduct of Lieut[t] Colonel Malcolm at the head of the 2[nd] Battalion Royal Marines, the intrepidity of Captain De Bersy of the Regiment De Watteville, who commanded the advance, the zeal and energy of Lieu[t] Colonel Pierson, Inspecting Field Officer, who, with Major Smelt of the 103[rd] Regiment had obtained a passage on board the Squadron to Niagara, and volunteered their Services on the occasion, the gallantry of Captain M[c]Millan of the Glengary Light Infantry, who covered the left flank of the Troops in the advance, and the activity and judgment of Captain Cruttenden, Royal Artillery, Brevet Major De Courten of the Regiment De Watteville, Lieutenant Stevens, of the Rocket Company Lieu[t] Gosset, Royal Engineers, each in their respective situations—Lieu[t] Colonel Malcolm has reported in high terms the conduct of Lieutenant Lawrie of the Royal Marines, who was at the head of the first Men who entered the Fort; and I had an opportunity of witnessing the Bravery of Lieutenant Hewitt of that Corps, who climbed the Flag Staff, and pulled down the American Ensign, which was nailed to it—

To Lieu[t]. Colonel Harvey, Deputy Adjutant General my warmest approbation is most justly due, for his unremitting zeal and useful assistance—the services of this intelligent and experienced officer have been so frequently brought under Your Excellency's observation before that it would be superfluous my making any comment on the high estimation in which I hold his valuable exertions—

Captain Jervois my Aide de Camp, and Lieu[t] Colonel Hagreman my provincial Aide de Camp, the only Officers of my personal Staff who accompanied me, rendered me every assistance—

Captain Jervois, who will deliver to Your Excellency, with this Despatch, the American Flag taken at Oswego, is fully enabled to afford every further information you may require—and I avail myself of the present opportunity strongly to

recommend this Officer to the favourable consideration of His Royal Highness, the Commander in Chief—

I have the Honor to be
Sir
Your Excellency's most obedient
Humble Servant
GORDON DRUMMOND
L[t] General

Archives, C. 683, p. 100.

From Prevost at Montreal to Stovin at Kingston.

Sir/ Montreal May 9[th] 1814

I have had the honor to receive your Letter of the 5[th] respecting the Sailing of the fleet with a detach[t] of Troops on board, & that a heavy firing had been heard apparently in the direction of Oswego—In consequence I entertain hopes of receiving good news from you very soon—The Lake Champlain flotilla is performing a similar part but on a less extensive Scale than the Squadron at Ontario—

I request a return of the distribution of the Right Division to the latest date may be sent to me, as it is essential I should be acquainted with the positions occupied by the Troops most advanced towards Detroit at this moment.

I have &c
G P

Archives, C. 683, p. 101.

From Lieutenant-Colonel Fischer to Harvey.

Copy/ H.M. Ship Prince Regent
Off Oswego, Lake Ontario, May 7[th].
Sir, 1814

It is with heartfelt satisfaction that I have the honor to report to you, for the information of Lieu[t]. General Drummond Commanding, that the Troops placed under my orders, for the purpose of storming the Fort at Oswego, have compleatly succeeded in this service.

It will be superfluous for me to enter into any details of the operations, as the Lieu^{t}. General has personally witnessed the conduct of the whole party, and the grateful task only remains to point out for his approbation, the distinguished bravery and discipline of the Troops.

The 2nd Battalion of Royal Marines formed their Column in the most regular manner, and by their steady and rapid advance, carried the fort in a very short time. In fact nothing could surpass the gallantry of that Battalion, commanded by Lieu^{t}. Colonel Malcolm, to whose cool and deliberate conduct, our success is greatly to be attributed. The Lieu^{t}. Colonel reported to me in high terms the conduct of Lieutenant James Lawrie, who was at the head of the first men who entered the Fort. The two Flank Companies of De Watteville's under Captain De Bersy, behaved with spirit, though labouring with more difficulties during their formation, on account of the badness of the landing place, and the more direct opposition of the Enemy. The Company of Glangary Light Infantry, under Captain M^{c}Millan, behaved in an equally distinguished manner, by clearing the wood, and driving the Enemy into the Fort.

I beg leave to make my personal acknowledgements to Staff Adjutant Greig, and Lieutenant and Adjutant Meimet of De Watteville's, for their zeal and attention to me, during the days service. Nor can I forbear to mention the regular behaviour of the whole of the Troops, during their stay on shore, and the most perfect order in which the reembarkation of the Troops has been executed, and every service performed.

I enclose, herewith, the return of Killed and wounded, as sent in to me, by the different Corps.

I have the honor to be Sir, &c
(Signed) V Fischer L^{t}. Colonel
De Watteville's Reg^{t}.

Copy
J Harvey
L^{t} Col. DAG.

Archives, C. 683, p. 113.

Return of Killed and Wounded of the Troops, in Action with the Enemy at Oswego, on the 6th May 1814

Corps	Killed						Wounded					
	Captains	Subalterns	Serjeants	Drummers	Rk. & File	Total	Captains	Subalterns	Serjeants	Drummers	Rk. & File	Total
2nd Battalion Royal Marines .	1	..	2	..	4	7	..	..	1	..	32	33
De Wattevilles Regiment .	..	..	..	1	7	8	1	1	1	..	17	20
Glengary Light Infantry . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	9
Total . .	1	..	2	1	11	15	1	1	2	..	58	62

Officers Killed—Captain William Holtaway 2nd Battalion Royal Marines.
Officers Wounded—Captain Pancras Ledergern De Wattevilles Regiment. Severely.
Lieutenant Victor May Do Dangerously.

J Harvey
Lt Col: DAGenl

Archives, C. 683, p. 104.

His Majestys Brig Magnet/late Sir Sidney
Off Oswego, US. May 7th 1814

Return of Ordnance & Ordnance Stores, taken and destroyed at Oswego, Lake Ontario the Sixth of May 1814, by His Majestys Troops under the Command of Lieutenant General Drummond.

		No.
Taken	32 Prs. Iron Guns	3
	24 Prs. Do Do	4
	12 Pr. Do Do	1
	6 Pr. Do Do	1
Destroyed	12 Pr. Heavy	1
	6 Pr. Do	1

Shot

42 Pr. Round Shot . . .	81
32 Do Do	32
42 Pr. Canister	36
32 Pr. Do	42
24 Do. Do	30
42 Pr. Grape	12
32 Do	48
24 Do	18

Eight Barrels of Gun Powder & all the Shot of Small Calibre in the Fort and Stores thrown into the River.

(Signed) Edw. Cruttendon
Capt. Coms. R.A.

Copy
J Harvey
Lt Col: DAG.

Archives, C. 683, p. 118.

Memm of Stores &c Captured from the Enemy at Oswego—6th May 1814

1045 Barrels of Flour, Pork, Potatoes, Salt Tallow &c

Naval Stores { 70 Coils of Rope and Cordage
Tar
Blocks large & Small

Two small Schooners with several Durham Boats & other smaller Craft.

Archives, Admiralty Papers:
Naval Correspondence, 1813–1815 (M.389–6), p. 116.

(*Transcript from the original in the Public Record Office, London.*)

From Yeo to Croker.

Cap. Y. 11.

No. 10.

His Majesty's Ship Prince Regent
9th May 1814

Sir,

My Letter of the 15th of April last, will have informed their Lordships, that His Majesty's Ships Prince Regent and Princess Charlotte were launched on the preceding day, I now have the satisfaction to acquaint you for their Lordships information, that the Squadron, by the unremitting exertion of the Officers and men under my command, were ready on the 3d Inst., when it was determined by Lieut. Gen. Drummond and myself that an immediate attack should be made on the Forts and Town of Oswego, which in point of position is the most formidable I have seen in Upper Canada, and where the Enemy had, by river navigation, collected from the interior several heavy Guns, and Naval Stores for the Ships, and large depôts of Provisions for their Army.

At Noon on the 5th we got off the Port and were on the point of landing when a heavy gale from the N. West obliged me to gain an Offing. On the morning of the sixth, every thing being ready, one hundred and forty troops, two hundred Seamen armed with pikes, under Captain Mulcaster, and four hundred Marines were put into the boats. The Montreal and Niagara took their stations abreast and within a quarter of a mile of the Fort, the Magnet opposite the Town, and the Star and Charwell to cover the landing, which was effected under a most heavy fire of round grape and musquetry kept

up with great spirit. Our men having to ascend a very steep and long hill were consequently exposed to a destructive fire, their gallantry overcoming every difficulty, they soon gained the summit of the hill, and throwing themselves into the fosse, mounted the ramparts on all sides vyeing with each other who should be foremost. Lieu[t] Laurie my Secretary was the first who gained the ramparts, and Lieu[t] Hewitt of the same Corps climbed the Flagstaff under a heavy fire and in the most gallant style struck the American colours which were nailed to the mast.

My gallant and much esteemed friend Captain Mulcaster led the Seamen to the Assault with his accustomed bravery; but I lament to say he received a dangerous wound in the act of entering the Fort, which I apprehend will for a considerable time deprive me of his valuable services, (the benefit of which I have many years experienced) and the Country of a brave and experienced Officer. M[r]. Scott, my first Lieutenant who was next in command nobly led them on, and soon gained the ramparts.

Captain O'Conor of the Prince Regent to whom I entrusted the landing of the troops displayed great ability and cool judgment, the boats being under a heavy fire from all points.

Captain Popham in the Montreal anchored his ship in a most gallant style sustaining the whole fire until we gained the shore. She was set on fire three times by red hot shot and much cut up in her Hull, Masts and rigging. Capt[n] Popham received a severe wound in his right hand, and speaks in high terms of M[r] Richardson the Master, who from a severe wound in the left arm was obliged to undergo amputation at the shoulder joint.

Captain Spilsbury of the Niagara, Captain Dobbs of the Charwell, Captain Anthony of the Star and Captain Collier in the Magnet, behaved much to my satisfaction.

The 2[nd] Battalion of Royal Marines excited the admiration

of all. They were led by the gallant Colonel Malcolm and suffered severely. Captain Holtaway doing duty in the Princess Charlotte gallantly fell at the head of his Company.

Having landed with the Seamen and Marines, I had great pleasure in witnessing not only the zeal and prompt attention of the Officers to my orders but also the intrepid bravery of the men whose good and temperate conduct under circumstances of great temptation (being a whole night in the town employed loading the captured vessels with Ordnance, Naval Stores and Provisions) most justly claim my high approbation and acknowledgment, and I here beg leave to recommend to their Lordships notice the services of all, of my First Lieutenant M^{r} Scott, Aide-de-Camp Act^{g} Lieu^{t} Yeo, to whom I beg leave to refer their Lordships for information, nor should the meritorious exertions of Acting Lieu^{t} Griffin, severely wounded in the arm, or M^{r} Brown, both of whom were attached to the Storming Party be omitted.

It is a great source of satisfaction to me, to acquaint their Lordships, that I have on this and all other occasions received from Lieu^{t} General Drummond that support and attention, which never fail in securing perfect cordiality between the two Services.

I herewith transmit a List of the Killed and wounded, and of the Ordnance, Naval Stores and Provisions captured and destroyed by the combined attack on the 6th Ins^{t}

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient
humble Servant
James Lucas Yeo
Commodore and Commander-in-Chief

A List of Officers, Seamen and Marines of His Majesty's Fleet on Lake Ontario, Killed and Wounded at Oswego on the 6th of May 1814.

Ships Name.	*Killed*	*Wounded*	
Prince Regent	Abel John, Seaman.	G. A. G. Griffin, Actg Lieut.	
		Thos. Harrington, Seaman	Severely
		Jas. Heagsham, Seaman	Severely
Princess Charlotte.	John McKenzie, Seaman	W. H. Mulcaster, Capt.	Severely
Montreal	Thomas Gorman, Seaman	Stephen Popham, Capt.	
		Jas. Richardson, Master	Severely, lost an arm.
		John Baxter	
		Thos. Gillingham	
		Joseph Padds	
		John Oscar	
Royal Marines	Willm. Holtaway	John Hewit, Lieut.	
	Serjt. Green	Willm. Meredith, Private	
	Joseph Brown, Private	James Lee	Do.
	Corpl. Battle	I. Calahon	Do.
	Serjt. Kain	Thos. Greenlore	Do.
	Thos. Hooper, Private	Saml. Wright	Do.
		John Newburgh	Do.
		Thos. Russell	Do.
		Peter Keener	Do.

Ships Name.	*Killed.*	*Wounded.*	
Royal Marines		John Bay, Corp[l].	
		John Blundell, Serj[t].	
		John Tacked, Corp[l].	
		John Caveney	Private
		Edward Fell	D°.
		William Wencle	D°.
		Tho[s]. Making	D°.
		John Webber	D°.
		John Gillingham	D°.
		William Trout	D°.
		Isaac Taylor	D°.
		John Baxter	D°.
		John Jackson	D°.
		Francis Marlow	D°.
		Matthew Hoosey	D°.
		Phillip Ridout	D°.
		Tho[s]. Beckford	D°.
		John Smith	D°.

James Lucas Yeo
Commodore & Commander in Chief
Tho[s]. Lewis. Surgeon.

A Statement of Ordnance and Naval Stores and Provisions brought off and destroyed in a combined Attack of the Sea and Land Forces on the Town and Fort of Oswego on the 6[th] of May 1814.

Brought off.

Ordnance Stores

Guns, 3 long 32 P[drs]. 4 long 24 P[drs].
A quantity of various kinds of Ordnance Stores.

Naval Stores & Provisions

3 Schooners.
800 Barrels of Flour.
500 D°. of Pork.
600 D°. of Salt.
500 D°. of Bread.
A quantity of barge Roap.

Destroyed

Guns, sunk, 3 long 24P^{rs}. 1 long 12 P^{r}. 2 long 6 P^{sr}. 1 Schooner, and all Barracks and other public Buildings.

James Lucas Yeo,
Commodore & Commander in Chief.

James.

American General Order.

Head quarters, Sackett's Harbor,
May 12, 1814.

Major-general Brown has the satisfaction to announce to the forces under his command, that the detachments stationed at Oswego, under the immediate orders of lieutenant-colonel Mitchell, of the third artillery, by their gallant and highly military conduct, in sustaining the fire of the whole British fleet of this lake for nearly two days, and contending with the vastly superior numbers of the enemy on the land, as long as the interest of the country, or the honor of their profession, required ; and then, effecting their retreat in good order, in the face of this superior force of the enterprising and accomplished foe, to the depôt of naval stores, which it became their duty to defend, have established for themselves a name in arms, worthy of the gallant nation in whose cause they

fight, and highly honorable to the army. Lieutenant-colonel Mitchell had, in all, less than 300 men; and the force of the enemy, by land and water, exceeded 3000.

R. JONES, assist.-adjt.-gen.

Archives, C. 683, p. 152.

From Drummond at Kingston to Prevost at ——.

Kingston, May 14th 1814.

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit to Your Excellency the substance of Secret Intelligence, I received, yesterday, from Lieutenant Colonel Morrison Commanding at Fort Wellington, which I forwarded, without delay, to Commodore Sir James Yeo; who sailed, as I have already intimated to Your Excellency was his intention, with the Squadron, from hence, on Wednesday last.— Marked A

Captain Loring, my Aide-de-Camp, has just returned from the Bay of Quinté, with the information, of which the enclosed is a Copy. The person, who is regularly employed by me for the purpose, arrived on the Canadian Shore, at 2 O'Clock this morning; and returned to Sacket's Harbour immediately.— Marked B

This latter intelligence, agreeing in so many instances, with that received from Lieutenant Colonel Morrison, I anxiously hope, that my Despatch to Sir James Yeo, which I not only forwarded by Water from hence, but also viâ York, may arrive in sufficient time, to enable the Commodore to avail himself of such favorable opportunities, as appear to present themselves at present, for very considerable annoyance to the Enemy's Naval preparations.—

I have the honor to be
Sir, Your Excellency's
most obedient,
humble Servant,
GORDON DRUMMOND
Lt General

Archives, C. 683, p. 155.

Enclosure.

Secret Intelligence rec^d from L^t Co^l Morrison, Com^g at Fort Wellington.

Copy A

Informant left Sackets Harbour on Saturday the 7th—on Friday an express arrived from L^t Col. Mitchell comm^g at Oswego, relating that the British Squadron had appeared off that place, at 4 p.m. 400 Men marching as a reinforcement to Col. Mitchell—Understood that 70 Guns had arrived at Oswego for the new Ship, a few days before the British Squadron showed itself, and that they with the stores (which had been brought up by water from Schenectady by Contract) had been sent up the river for safety. Informant had no doubt of ev'ry exertion being immediately made to get the guns &c to the Harbour, and was of opinion that their small fast sailing Schooners, woud be used for that purpose.—

Large Ship launched last Sunday week—No guns, sails, cables or anchor for her, and very few Seamen—total at the Harbour not exceeding 1000,—about 700 Troops—300 Artificers in the Dock yard—and (say) 200 Inhabitants—one of the new Brigs the Jefferson the largest mounting 24 Guns *completely* manned for Sea—the other 22 Guns (the Jones) not yet ready, and doubts whether they have the means of arming and manning her—The crew of the Macedonian, and some Privateers from the Chesapeake on their way to the Harbour,—Nothing whatever had been done to the new Ship since her launch—her masts even were not made. Gen^l Brown and Staff arrived at Sacket's Harbour 10 days ago—the Navy there were angry with the General for leaving Oswego in so unprotected a State—The Majority of the new members elected in the State of New York were for the War Party.

Archives, C. 683, p. 157.

Enclosure.

REPORT OF INFORMATION GIVEN BY ——.

May 14th 1814

Viz^{t}—

Copy B

That the large ship lately launched will not be ready for sea in less than a month.

The Ship now on the stocks will probably be launched in twenty days.

The new Brig Jefferson is completely ready, and the new Brig Jones, will be so in twelve days, they each mount 22. 42 P^{rs} Carronades. 1 long 24 P^{r} & 2 long 18 P^{rs}.

Early next week they will commence planking the new ship.

within 3 weeks about 500 Sailors have arrived in small gangs and Commodore Chauncey observed he shou'd very shortly be full in his compliment.

The General opinion is that the fleet cannot get out in less than six weeks. About 15 only of the long 32 pdrs. had reached Sackets Harbour by way of Oswego, when our attack on that place was made, the remainder of them were at the Falls, as likewise a very great quantity of Rigging and other Stores. Nothing further than Col. Mitchells force which retreated thither to guard them. The Enemy are quite at a loss how to get on the 32 Pd^{rs}. to Sackets Harbour as they dread a rigorous blockade, and from Oswego the road is only passable for a horseman. And these Guns weighing upwards of three tons are found too heavy for transportation byWaggon by which means their 42 Pd^{r}.Carronades are brought from Utica. Quantities of ammunition lately brought by the same conveyance to the Harbor. Within the last week near 60 Waggons with that article, rigging, Stores and 42 Pd^{r}. Carronades have arrived. Much of the powder is on board two or three old Vessels, which lie deep in the bason within

the fleet, and very near the Ship on the Stocks. One of these Vessels is Gloucester which was taken from us at York. There are no privateers fitting out for the interception of our communication between Coteau du Lac and Kingston, nor was any such thing in agitation, either by individuals or by their Naval force.

The number of Military at Sackets Harbour is reported to be 3000, but informant is certain that this number is greatly exagerated—at least in point of effectives, there being many sick, and many employed on detached duties, some distance in the interior. From 5 to 600 men were expected to arrive from Green Bush in the course of the next Week,—There are no Militia on duty at the Harbour. The Enemy has cut down the wood for the space of 15 Acres in the direction of Brownville, where is the only work lately erected, an open Battery mounted with Carronades which belong to the Shipping, which they are not yet ready to take on board.

There is a very large quantity of provisions about four Miles up the Genesee River, where they have but few men to defend it, and no kind of work to cover them. This the the Enemy had little doubt of our taking possession of before they could have time to remove it Informant knows nothing of the Lake Erie fleet. He heard from the Officers at the Harbour that the force stationed between Genesee and Buffaloe consisted of about 14 Hundred men that did not return with General Brown and some Militia, that they were much divided, being at Genesee, Batavia, 12 Mile Creek, Buffaloe, and some between Genesee and Fort Niagara. No movement against that post was contemplated neither were the Enemy of opinion we would Venture upon an attack at Sackets Harbour.

Archives, C. 683, p. 177.

From Drummond at Kingston to Prevost at ——.

Kingston, May 19th 1814.

Sir,

Since I had the honor of addressing Your Excellency this morning I have received an account from Commodore Sir James Yeo, that he has taken a station between the Islands and Sackett's Harbour ; so as completely to prevent anything passing there without his knowledge.—Our communication with Niagara, and the Head of the Lake, will thus continue for some time at least uninterrupted.—

I have the honor to be,
Sir, Your Excellency's
most obedient,
humble Servant,
Gordon Drummond
Lt General

Archives, C. 683, p. 191.

From Drummond at Kingston to Prevost at ——.

Kingston, May 21st 1814.

Sir,

I have the honor to acquaint Your Excellency, that I have received intelligence from Captain O'Conor, in the indisposition of Commodore, Sir James Yeo, that the Enemy's Shipping at Sackets Harbour is undergoing a most close blockade; our Squadron having taken so favorable a position as to preclude the possibility of any vessel whatever getting in or out of Harbour without notice ; a circumstance which ensures a free intercourse throughout the Lake.—

The Enemy's Ship, Superior, has just taken in her Foremast ; which completes her Lower Masts on board.—The

new Brigs, and the old Squadron, are perfectly ready for Sea.—The Ship on the Stocks, it is reported, will be ready to launch, as soon as the Superior is ready to sail; the only delay being with the Guns, and Stores; which in getting to Sacket's Harbour by Land will probably occupy four weeks.—

I have received a Report from Major-General Riall, stating that about 300 of the Enemy had landed at Pattersons Creek, near Dover; against whom he had ordered Lieutenant Colonel Parry, with the Grenadiers of the 103rd Regt the Light Company of the 89th and the Indians from the Beach; together with as many of the Militia in the neighbourhood as could be assembled.—Colonel Talbot had collected some at Soverien's Mills; and Major Hatt some near Ancaster.—The Enemy had appeared in the Offing about 2 O'Clock; and disembarked about 5 in the afternoon, of the 14th Instant.—Their object was not ascertained. But I hope Colonel Parry will give a good account of them, should they not have returned to their Vessels, before his arrival.—

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Excellency's
most obedient,
humble Servant,
Gordon Drummond
Lt General

P.S.—Three Companies of the 103rd Regt sailed yesterday from hence in the Charwell, Beresford, and two small Schooners for the Head of the Lake. On the return of which I propose sending the remainder of the Regiment.—This will, I trust, render Burlington tolerably secure. But, should the Enemy advance in force from Long Point, Colonel Stewart has Instructions to proceed, without delay, from York, for the protection of that important Position.—

G. D.

NARRATIVE DOCUMENTS

GROUP X (*continued*)

OPERATIONS ON THE FRONTIERS, 1814

Lake Ontario: 5. Sandy Creek, May 30, 1814

Archives, C. 683, p. 226.

From Drummond at Kingston to Prevost at ——

Kingston June 2nd
1814

Sir,

It is with extreme regret I have to report to Your Excellency the unfortunate result of an enterprize, by the Boats of the Squadron, under the Command of Captains Popham and Spilsbury, of the Royal Navy, with nearly 200 Men, against a Flotilla of the Enemy's Craft, laden with Naval Stores, from Oswego for Sacket's Harbour, at Sandy Creek; from whence the Stores were to have been conveyed by land to that place.—

On Sunday morning, the 29th Ultimo, a large Boat, with two 24 Pounders, and a 19½ Inch Cable, for the Enemy's new Ship, was captured by our Squadron; having sailed from Oswego the Evening before with fifteen others, having on board 8 or 10 Riflemen each.—Captain Popham was immediately sent in pursuit of the others, with two Gunboats and some smaller craft, to cut them off from the Creeks. And at night Captain Spilsbury, with a reserve of boats, was

sent in that direction also.—The Enemy's Flotilla having been discovered in Sandy Creek; Parties were landed on each side of the River.—But as the Enemy was in considerable force, in Riflemen, and Indians, as well as Militia, I am distressed to say, that not a man escaped of our brave little force.—One Master's Mate, and 18 Men have been killed; two Officers of Marines dangerously, and 50 Men Wounded.—

The Accompanying Copy of Captain Popham's Official letter from Sacket's Harbour, where he, and the remainder of his force, are Prisoners, will explain the particulars of this truly unfortunate affair to Your Excellency.—To replace the casualties arising from which I trust Your Excellency will see the necessity of hastening up the reinforcements of Seamen, and Artificers lately arrived at Quebec in His Majesty's Ship Dover.—Until which time Commodore Sir James Yeo intends taking out the Crews of the Magnet and Netley, (late Sir Sidney, and Beresford) except about 8 hands, for the purpose of carrying Supplies to the Head of the Lake.—The Charwell, (late Moira,) and Netley came into this Harbour last night, and have this morning sailed again with Supplies for the Squadron.

Sir James Yeo intended to have changed the point of blockade to Oswego, but I have written to recommend his continuance off Sacket's Harbour, (detaching 1 or 2 of his smaller vessels to the former place) as the confidence, with which the Enemy must be already possessed from their success at Sandy Creek, would be considerably increased, in the idea, that, by the loss we sustained on the occasion, we had been driven to the necessity of raising the Blockade of that all important Station, Sacket's Harbour.—And besides our communication, with the Head of the Lake, from hence, must be considered very insecure.—

My latest communications from Major General Riall are of the 27th Ultimo. All is quiet on the Niagara Frontier.—The Enemy at Buffaloe still computed to be about 1200.

A Canadian, who returned to his farm, a short time since, at Four Mile Creek, reports them, however, to be 1500.—

I have the honor to be,
Sir, Your Excellency's
most obedient, humble servant,
GORDON DRUMMOND
L[t] General.

Archives, C. 683, p. 239.

From Yeo off Sackett's Harbour to Drummond at ——

Copy

Prince Regent at Anchor
off Sackett's Harbour, June 3[rd]
1814.

Sir,

The Enemy's Squadron being now nearly ready for Sea, and it being too late for any joint attack on the Enemy's force at Sackett's Harbour, I conceive it necessary to determine in what way His Majesty's Naval Force can best be employed to defeat the Enemy's views, and protect this Province; I transmit you herewith a statement of their force, on which it is unnecessary for me to make any Comment.

There are two things to be considered,

1[st] What the Enemy's Squadron can effect before our large Ship is ready.

2[nd] What object we have for wishing an Action with our present force, when we will so soon have the superiority.

From the large reinforcements Government are sending to this country, it appears to me to be their wish, that a respectable naval Force should be established to meet the Enemy, and that any rash, ill-timed, or unnecessary risk, would defeat their views.—The Enemy are not in sufficient force to undertake any expedition in the face of our present

Squadron, but any disaster on our Side, might give them a serious ascendancy.

In making this communication, I trust you will give me credit when I assure you I do not write from the feelings of a Captain of a Ship, but consider myself placed here in a highly responsible situation, as Commanding the Naval Force in this Country, on which most materially depends the safety or loss of this Province.—

I therefore require of you, Sir, as the General Officer with whom I am acting, your opinion on the several points in my letter, I shall at all times be ready to take the Squadron into action, whenever the General Officer with whom I am acting, represents to me that he thinks it necessary for the good of the Service, and Safety of the Colony, but such Sanction or authority under existing circumstances, I will require, as I never can take the whole responsibility on myself.—

I have the honor to be
&c., &c.
(Signed) James L. Yeo
Commodore and Commr-in-Chief.

A Statement of the American Naval Force, in Addition to their old Squadron—3rd June 1814

Ships Names	No of Guns	Description of Guns &c.
Superior . . .	64	Long 32 and 24 pounders
Jefferson } Brigs .	24	22–42 Prs Carronades, 1 long 24 pr. 1 long 18 pr.
Jones } .	22	20–42 Prs Carronades, 1 long 24 Pr. 1 long 18 Pr.
Name unknown .	52	To be launched in a few days

(Signed) James L. Yeo
Commodore & Commander-in-Chief.

Archives, C. 683, p. 234.

From Drummond at Kingston to Prevost at ——

Kingston. June 4th 1814.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's letter of the 1st Instant.

The latest accounts from Sackett's Harbour, however, stating, that the Enemy's new Ship, Superior, has got her top masts up, and will be soon ready for Sea; and, that the Ship upon the Stocks will be launched in a very few days; on whose taking the Lake with the rest of the Fleet, our Squadron will be under the necessity of retiring to their own Harbour.—And as the temporary superiority of the Lake, thus afforded to the Enemy, would give them a full opportunity of anticipating our intentions, by burning and destroying the whole line of Settlements along our Shore, I have deferred sending the Flag of Truce to Sackett's Harbour, communicating Your Excellency's determination on retaliation for the outrages committed at Dover, until I learn your further pleasure on the subject.—When, even should it still be Your Excellency's desire to inflict the just retribution, I conceive it would be more prudent to carry your instructions into effect at once; rather than apprize the Enemy of our intentions, and afford them time to prepare themselves for a vigorous resistance.—And as I presume it matters but little to the inhabitants of the Shore of Lake Ontario what sufferings their countrymen undergo on the Coast of the Atlantic, I take the liberty of suggesting the propriety of Your Excellency addressing a formal communication to the Government of the United States direct, on a subject which so materially concerns the honor, and the character, of the Nation.—

I regret extremely it will not now be in my power to try the effect of the Rocket Practice against the Enemy's Fleet

at Sackett's Harbour.—By Captain Popham's late unfortunate affair at Sandy Creek, so many Gunboats, and others, have been lost to the service, that the Commodore has not a sufficiency, or indeed scarcely any, to protect the Rocket Boats, (which are already fitted out,) during such an enterprize.—And it would not answer to stand in, or anchor, with the Squadron, under the Batteries.—

I have directed Major General Riall to send a Flag of Truce to Presq'Isle, to call upon the Officer Commanding there to state, upon what pretext the outrages committed at Dover were permitted ; & whether they were perpetrated by Colonel Campbell, (who commanded on the spot,) by sanction of the American Government,—or without any such authority.

I have directed Captain Marlow, Royal Engineers, to proceed to York and Niagara, to inspect the Works of Defense lately established at these places ; and to construct others to strengthen the Position at Burlington, now become a place of the highest importance.—

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Excellency's
most obedient,
humble Servant,
GORDON DRUMMOND
L^t. General

Archives, C. 683, p. 242.

From Drummond at Kingston to Yeo.

(Copy) Head Quarters, Upper Canada
Kingston 6th June 1814

Sir,

Your letter of the 3rd Inst has received my most serious attention.—

So long as your position off Sackett's Harbour was found to distress the Enemy, and to retard the armament and

equipment of his new ships, so long it appeared to me that the Blockade ought to be maintained, and so long, in fact, no risk whatever could attend it—

It appearing, however, from your letter, that the Enemy's Squadron, including his new Ship (Superior) and Brigs, is now ready for sea, it is evident the Blockade has not had all the Effect to which we looked, and moreover, that it can no longer be maintained, without risquing an action with a Squadron quite equal, if not superior to that under your command, and under circumstances on our part of decided disadvantage. With regard to the probable objects of the Enemy, and to what their Squadron may be able to effect, before our large Ship is ready, I am of opinion that whatever may be their ultimate views, they will not undertake any offensive operation, until their second large Ship is ready, and even then, I am very much disposed to concur with you in thinking that they will scarce venture, in the face of your present squadron and with the knowledge of the powerful addition to it, which is in rapid progress, to encumber theirs with Troops, and other means necessary for the invasion of any part of this province—

It follows, therefore, as my opinion, and I have no hesitation in giving it as such, that there exists at present no motive or object connected with the security of this Province which can make it necessary for you to act otherwise than cautiously on *the defensive* (but at the same time closely watching all their movements) until the moment arrives, when by the addition of the large Ship now on the Stocks, you may bring the naval contest on this Lake fairly to issue, or by a powerful combined Expedition (if the Enemy, is as probable, should decline meeting you on the Lake) we may attack and destroy him in his stronghold—

In thus frankly giving you my Ideas, as to the line of conduct which it would be prudent and proper for you, as Commodore of His Majesty's Naval Force in this Province,

to pursue, it is scarce necessary for me to observe that circumstances may arise which may render it expedient and necessary to adopt a widely different system, such for instance as the relief of the necessities of the advanced Division, an Expedition against Sacketts Harbour, &c., &c.

But these circumstances, as they may arise, will be discussed by us, with those feelings of perfect good understanding and cordiality, which have, I think I may affirm, ever subsisted betwixt us, and which to me have been a source of great satisfaction and confidence.—

I have the Honor to be
&c &c &c
(Signed) GORDON DRUMMOND
L^t. General.

Archives, C. 683, p. 300.

From Drummond at Kingston to Prevost at ——.

Kingston June 21^st 1814.

Sir,

I am concerned to acquaint Your Excellency of the capture, by the Enemy, of one of our Gunboats, under the command of Captain Landon, of the Militia, with about 20 Marines, on the 19^th Instant at Tar Island.

I understand, that Captain Landon, conceiving the first boat of the Enemy which made its appearance, to be one of our own Flotilla, went on board her in a small skiff; which, having been seen by his own people, induced them to consider her in the same friendly point; and they pulled towards her; when the whole force of the Enemy, (two Gun boats and a gig, or cutter,) appearing, rendered resistance too hopeless a case, to be attempted.—

Captain Landon is so well known on the opposite Shore, as an active, zealous, and loyal subject, that I am apprehensive

he will not experience the kindest treatment during his confinement.—

I have the honor to be
Sir, Your Excellency's
most obedient
humble Servant,
GORDON DRUMMOND
L^t. General.

P:S:—The enclosed are the only official Notification I have had of this affair ; immediately on receipt of which Captain Owen, with two Gunboats, and 150 Seamen, to complete the complement of those at present manned with the Military, proceeded in pursuit of the Enemy.— G. D.

Archives, C. 683, p. 303.

From Drummond at Kingston to Prevost at ——.

Kingston. June 23^rd 1814.

Sir,

I have much satisfaction in acquainting Your Excellency, that the Enemy has not been able to reach any Port of their own, with the Gunboat, Black Snake, which they so lately captured.—

Lieutenant Campbell, of the 104^th Reg^t. who had gone in pursuit,—was so fortunate as to fall in with them, and, in a most gallant manner, in a single boat, armed with a Carronade, and eighteen soldiers, chased a Gunboat, and Four other Boats filled with men, and obliged them, after firing a few shot, to scuttle, and abandon their Prize.—The Enemy's boats escaped round Gravelly Point by superior pulling.—

Captain Owen has weighed the Black Snake, and recovered the Gun, and greater part of her Stores ; and sent her to Kingston for repairs.—

Commodore, Sir James Yeo, anchored, this morning, with the Squadron, off the Ducks.—

I have the honor to be
Sir, Your Excellency's
most obedient,
humble Servant,
GORDON DRUMMOND
L^t. General.

Archives, C. 684, p. 37.

From Drummond at Kingston to Prevost at ——.

Kingston July 7th 1814

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's letter of the 4th Instant.—Had the Force specified in the Margin arrived, during our Naval Superiority, I should then have had it in my power, to have struck such a blow, at Sackett's Harbour, as would have decided, I think, the present contest.—As matters now are, with a decided naval ascendancy on the part of the Enemy, and with the various additions and improvements which they are daily making to the Defences of that Place, instead of 4000 effective Troops, which I long since stated to Your Excellency, would be requisite, in my opinion, to ensure success, I now consider that not less than 5000 would be sufficient, independent of Artillery and Indians.—And with regard to a movement towards Detroit, I do not conceive that an undertaking of the kind can well be at present attempted, or until the Right Division has received such reinforcements as would admit of its detaching so strong a Corps as would be requisite, and I am apprehensive the Commissariat would find it a most difficult matter to afford the necessary supplies to the Troops.—

It is most gratifying to learn from Your Excellency that your apprehensions with regard to the supplies for the Army and Navy have been removed.—

I have the honor to enclose a Copy of a letter from Commo- 2nd July 1814
dore, Sir James Yeo, to Lieutenant Worsley, the Officer of the Royal Navy appointed to Lake Ontario, directing him to comply with all requisitions of Lieutenant Colonel McDouall.

On the subject of the Naval Establishment at Turkey Point, I have the honor to enclose a copy of my letter to Sir James Yeo with the Commodore's reply.—He proposes sending immediately a Foreman of the Dock Yard, and a few Artificers for the purpose of cutting Timbers in the Woods for building.—

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your Excellency's
most obedient,
humble Servant,
GORDON DRUMMOND
L[t] General

Archives, C. 788, p. 18.

From Lieutenant Colonel Williams, Royal Marines, at Isle aux Noix to Prevost at ——.

Isle aux Noix July 14, 1814.

Sir,

I have the honor to enclose the Copy of a letter which I received yesterday evening from the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, directing me to place at the disposal of Commodore Sir James Yeo, as many of the Officers and Men of the Battalion under my Command as may be necessary for completing the Marine Complements of the Ships and

Vessels employed on the Lakes of Canada, if the same should not have been already done from the late Second Battalion, and having so done, to proceed with the remainder without loss of time to Bermuda, and follow the orders of Vice Admiral Sir Alexander Cochrane: Instructions having been given to the Senior Officer of His Majesty's Ships at Quebec to order me a conveyance by the earliest opportunity.

The communication which I purpose making to Commodore Sir James Yeo on the Subject I have likewise the honor to enclose for your Excellency's approbation. But in Order to carry into effect their Lordships Orders, if it be your Excellency's pleasure a Schedule of the complement of Royal Marines allotted by their Lordships express orders for His Majesty's Ships and Vessels on the Lakes of Canada should be furnished for my guidance, with a Return of the numbers wanting to complete: in order that I may take with me to Vice Admiral Sir Alexander Cochrane a force of such strength and efficiency as their Lordships have reason to expect from my letter of the 30 June, wherin I stated to them that the whole of the 2^{d} Battalion had been required and appropriated by Sir James Yeo to the Service of His Majesty's Ships and Vessels upon the Lakes of Canada.

The letter from the Board of Admiralty not conveying any orders for the disposal of the Two Artillery Companies and Rocket detachment attached to the Battalion, I request your Excellencys directions respecting them.

I have the honor to be, Sir
Your Excellency's
Most Obedient
humble Servant
R. Williams
L^{t}. Col. Com^{g}.
Batt. R. Mars.

Archives, C. 788, p. 17.

Enclosure. From Croker at the Admiralty to Williams, Canada.

Duplicate Admiralty Office, 23d May, 1814.
(Copy)

Sir

It being the intention of my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that the Battalion of Marines under your command should be disposed of for the Naval Service, their Lordships have desired the Secretary of State to instruct Sir George Prevost not to consider this Battalion as any longer under his Orders, and I have their Lordships Commands to signify their direction to you to place at the disposal of Commodore Sir James Yeo as many of the Officers and Men of the said Battalion as may be necessary for completing the Marine Complements of the Ships and Vessels employed on the Lakes of Canada, if the same should not have been already done from the late Second Battalion, and having so done to proceed with the remainder without loss of time to Bermuda, and follow the Orders of Vice Admiral Sir Alexander Cochrane: the senior Officer of His Majesty's Ships in Quebec being instructed to order you a conveyance by the earliest opportunity.

I am
Sir
Your most humble Servant,
J. W. Croker.

Archives, C. 730, p. 55.

From Yeo at Kingston to Prevost at ——.

His Majesty's Ship Wolfe, at Kingston, 22nd July 1814

Sir—

In consequence of the Enemy having Built a Ship at Sackets Harbour, carrying long 24 Pounder Guns, and laid down the Keel, of a Brig 80 feet in length,

I have the Honor to propose to your Excellency of Building a Ship agreeably to the enclosed Dimensions.

and have the honor to be
Sir—
Your Excellency's
most obedient humble
servant
James Lucas Yeo, Commodore.

Dimensions of a New Ship proposed to be Built at Kingston Navy Point Viz[t]

Length on the Gun Deck—	160 feet
Tread of the Keel on the Ground—	148 „
Beam Moulded—	42 „
Depth under the Gun Deck to the Limber Strakes—	13 „
Draught of Water with Stores on board—	14 „

James Lucas Yeo.
Commodore.

Archives, C. 684, p. 248.

From Freer at Montreal to Stovin at ——.

Head Quarters Montreal
31[st] July 1814

Sir

In acknowledging the honor of your letter of the 28[th] Ins[t] received this morning which has been laid before the Commander of the Forces, I am instructed to inform you that the secret source from which flows our information is not stopped, but is managed with more circumspection, that derived from Kingston (& which it is Desirable at all times

to receive) is to enable the Commander of the Forces by comparison to judge of its purity—

(Signed)
N. Freer
M.S—

[*Pencil note added*]

The intelligence from S. H of the 27th states the whole of the Enemy's attention turned to the construction of large Boats, with an evident design of employing them filled with men to molest and interrupt the communication from Fort Wellington to Kingston—I was directed to desire you will make this circumstance known to Sir J L Yeo.

Archives, C. 688D, p. 113.

From O'Conor at Kingston to —— at ——.

Kingston
Septr 3rd. 1814,

Dear Sir,

The stores we most require now are the Fire Hearth Anchors and Cables as the blowing weather approaches heavy Anchors cannot be dispensed with, One of the Centaurs with Cable being on the way I have to desire no time may be lost in forwarding Two more with four Cables of dimensions as near Twenty One inches as may be within your means of procuring.

Your news from Europe was very acceptable as will any English papers in your power to forward us, I perceive some cases arriving for Citizens of Kingston, I hope they are not of your forwarding and that none will in future appear in any Naval Way Bill—

I wish you had said something of my Cock'd Hat, the want of which I greatly feel, it certainly must be forth coming, and I wish you would forward it up as soon as possible, and ask Mr. Dillon for a rect. for the Sum of Fifty pounds

I gave him on account of M^r. Petrie, w^ch keep for me, The S^t. Lawrence will be launched on the 8^th. inst. if nothing unfavorable occurs to prevent it; be good enough to pay my bill at Holmes', which I called for, but could not get.

faithfully yours

RICH. O'CONOR

The Commodore desires you to acquaint the Ordnance department that there is a surplus of Grape and Cannister Shot for Naval Service here, but not sufficient Round Shot for 32 or 24 p^rs.

He likewise desires you will send him an account of the Articles you have sent him with the Am^t.

RoC.

NARRATIVE DOCUMENTS

GROUP X (*continued*)

OPERATIONS ON THE FRONTIERS, 1814

LAKE ERIE: 6. AMERICANS RAID PORT DOVER, MAY 15, 1814

Archives, C. 683, p. 171.

From Colonel Talbot (of the Talbot Settlement) at Turkey Point to Riall at ——.

Turkey Point 16^th May 1814 P.M.

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you, that the Enemy have reembarked, and their Vessels have Steered towards the extremity of Long-Point, where they appear to have come to an Anchor—

It is painful to relate the excess's the Americans have committed in this Settlement, unfortunately from the dispersed state of the Militia, it was impossible to assemble the Militia in Sufficient time to oppose the landing of Enemy, which took place on the 14th Int. at 4. o'Clock in the Afternoon at the Mouth of Pattersons Creek near Dover. The Weather was so extremely foggy that the Approach of the American Vessels was not perceived more than an hour before they landed, I found it therefore necessary to retire as far as Sovereigns Mills, as did also Lieut Burton with the Detachment of the 19th Light Dragoons, for the purpose of affording time to the Militia to collect. About one hundred joined me at that Place during the course of yesterday, with whom I returned in the afternoon to Dover, which Village, I am extremely sorry to say was burnt during the Morning, Ryerse's Mills and buildings were also destroyed, after which the Enemy returned to the Mouth of Patterson's Creek and returned on board their Vessels—from thence they moved up during the Night opposite to Finches Mills between Ryerse's Mills and Turkey-point where they sent a Strong force and burnt those Mills at an early hour this Morning, I proceeded with the Militia and the 19th Light Dragoons to Turkey point, knowing it to be their next object of destruction, The Enemy shewed a disposition to land at this place, but after getting as near to the landing place as the Water would admit of—they steered outward.

The Dragoons and Militia will remain at this place for the present, that is to Night, as it is not impossible but that the Enemy may return during the Night and attempt to complete their Work of destruction in burning the Court House and other buildings—I have every Confidence in the determined Spirit of the Militia to oppose the Enemy, at the same time, that I must add that their ardour is greatly encreased by the Support of the 19th Light Dragoons, whose anxiety to face the Enemy cannot be described.

The force of the Americans, that have landed, is estimated at about 800 men commanded by a Lieu[t] Col. Campbell, Markle and young Grace that deserted last winter with Malleray were with them. I conceived it proper to send for the Detachment of the Royals & Kent Volunteers from Burford, they have arrived at Culvers about an hour back—with this additional force I think I can prevent any further attempts of the present force of the Enemy from succeeding.

I trust that Lieu[t] General Drummond will be enabled to send some Regulars to Long Point, as it is to be apprehended that the Enemy will ere long return with a strong force, at least, they have declared such to be their intention, and also that you will be so good as to order a supply of Ammunition to be forwarded without delay—such as will answer French & American Muskets—

I have the honor to be Sir,
Y[r] very Ob[t] Humble serv[t]
THOMAS TALBOT

Archives, C. 683, p. 196.

From Drummond at Kingston to Prevost at ——.

Kingston May 27[th]
1814

Sir,

In my letter, which I had the honor to address to Your Excellency, on the 21[st] Inst I stated, that a force of the Enemy, at that time supposed to be about 300, had landed near Dover, on Lake Erie. I have now the honor to transmit a letter from Major General Riall, covering a Report of Colonel Talbot, commanding the Militia of the London District, on the subject—Your Excellency will, however, perceive, that the force of the Enemy has been since computed to consist of about 800 Men : whose conduct has been

disgraced, during their short stay ashore, by every act of wanton barbarity, and of illiberal and unjustifiable outrage.— Not only a large store, fitted up as a Barrack for Militia, but every private house, and other building belonging to the peaceable inhabitants of the Village, and neighbourhood of Dover, has been reduced to ashes ; together with Ryarse's, and Finch's Mills, between that place, & Turkey Point.— The Court House and Buildings, at Turkey Point were only saved, by the appearance of the Militia, and a Detachment of the 19th Light Dragoons ; both of which Corps, I have very great satisfaction in acquainting your Excellency, evinced the strongest anxiety to come in contact with the Enemy.—

I have likewise received the most satisfactory accounts, from Lieutenant Colonel Parry, of the 103rd Regt. relative to the conduct of the Grenadier Company of that Corps, and the Light Company of the 89th placed under his immediate orders.—The latter he says are wild ; but with attention and management perfectly tractable and orderly—and Lieutenant Colonel Parry bestows much just commendation on the zeal and alacrity with which the Militia assembled, considering the distance from whence they were to be collected.—The Lieutenant Colonel from all these circumstances feels convinced, that, had not the Enemy retired to their Shipping, before his arrival, his little band, increased by a few of the Rangers and of the Kent Volunteers, as well as of some persons, and some Wyandot Indians, who joined him from Amherstburg, would have made the Enemy pay dear for their outrages.—

He states, that but one house, in which a sick woman resided, was left standing, between Patersons Creek, and Turkey Point.—And the Enemy, on retiring, avowed their intention to destroy Port Talbot in a similar manner.—And as their Officers appear determined to pursue the same system, throughout the whole of the Western Frontier, I feel convinced, that nothing but the most vigorous opposition to

such disgraceful proceedings will prevent a recurrence of them.—The accompanying Declaration made by Captain Holmes, Commanding at Amherstburg, to the Inhabitants of the New Settlement is a proof of the Enemy's nefarious intentions.—

I have the honor to be
Sir, Your Excellency's
most obedient humble servant
GORDON DRUMMOND
L[t] General

Archives, C. 683, p. 255.

From Drummond at Kingston to Prevost at ——.

Kingston June 7[th] 1814.

Sir,

In reference to Your Excellency's Communication on the subject of the formation of a Naval Establishment on Lake Erie, I have the honor [to] submit a Report made to me by Lieutenant Colonel Nichol, Quarter Mast[r] Gen[l] of Militia, relative thereto.—That Officer being possessed of much local information I considered him most capable of affording, under existing circumstances, the best opinion.—

It is now decidedly too late to attempt building any description of Vessel, for service on that Lake, this Year.—But so soon as we have the superiority on Lake Ontario, by the accession to the Squadron of the new Ship on the Stocks Guns, Rigging, & other Stores, may be transported by Water, to the Head of the Lake, for the purpose of being forwarded by Land Carriage, during the ensuing winter, to Turkey Point ; the most eligible spot by far, in my opinion, for the Establishment of a Dock Yard ; and the building should commence instantly on the closing of the navigation of the Lake.—But, prior to these undertakings, a strong Work must be erected, under the eye of an able Engineer ; which

must be defended by a strong Garrison ; and well supplied with Commissariat Stores, & Provisions

I will have the honor to transmit Your Excellency a Sketch of the proposed Scite of the Dock Yard at Turkey Point, by the next Express.—

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your Excellency's
most obedient
humble servant
GORDON DRUMMOND,
Lt General

NARRATIVE DOCUMENTS

GROUP X (*continued*)

OPERATIONS ON THE FRONTIERS, 1814

NIAGARA FRONTIER : 7. CHIPPAWA, JULY 5, 1814.

Archives, C. 118, p. 45.

From Drummond at York, to Prevost at ——.

York. March 10th 1814.

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit a letter from Major General Riall, whereby Your Excellency will perceive the absolute necessity there exists, for Ample Supplies of Money being transmitted, to the Upper part of this Province, in particular, that not only the outstanding debts of the Service may be liquidated ; but that the Commissariat may be enabled to procure such resources as the Country affords ; before the credit of Government be altogether destroyed.— March 8th 1814.

I beg leave, again, therefore, to entreat Your Excellency's serious consideration of this important subject.—

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Excellency's
most obedient,
humble Servant
GORDON DRUMMOND,
L[t] General

Archives, C. 682, p. 200.

From Drummond at York to Prevost at ——.

York. March 14[th] 1814.—

Sir,

In reference to Your Excellency's letter, of the 28[th] Ult°, I have the honor to acquaint you, that I have transmitted to Major General Stovin, at Kingston, a Proclamation, which as Lieutenant General Commanding in Upper Canada, I have directed him to issue, in the Midland, and Newcastle, Districts, declaring Martial Law to be in force, as far as relates to Provisions, and Forage, for the use of His Majesty's Troops, in that vicinity.

It is a matter of much regret to me, that the House of Assembly would not consent to strengthen the Executive in this Province, by authorizing the Person administering the Government to proclaim Martial Law, in especial Districts only, where so violent a measure became indispensable.— The Question was negatived by a decided majority.—

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Excellency's
most obedient,
humble servant,
GORDON DRUMMOND
L[t] General

Archives, C. 388, p. 46.

From Colonel Young at Fort Niagara to Riall at ——.

Fort Niagara, March
14, 1814.

My dear Sir/

Two steady well behaved Grenadiers deserted last night. I am grieved and desponding at the circumstance and absolutely ashamed of the Corps ! I am alas ! too well persuaded that many more will go—The Balances they are receiving will, I fear have a great influence with them and yet the money has been so long due them that it was impossible and at any rate highly impolitic to have withheld it upon any pretext whatever There is yet a great deal of Arrears due the men and when it shall be paid I am confident I shall have more desertions. I am puzzled how to act with, or, what to think of the cursed sceming and general dissatisfaction which pervades the Regiment.

I remain dear Sir
Your very respectful
humble servant
Robt Young Col/

Archives, C. 682, p. 202.

From Drummond at York to Prevost at ——.

York. March 15th
1814.

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit the Copy of a letter from Captain Stewart, of the Royal Scots' Light Company, to Major General Riall ; whereby Your Excellency will perceive,

that much dependance cannot be placed in our Indian Allies' co-operation.—

Major General Riall has reported to me, that the Enemy have lately shewn themselves in strong parties along the Niagara line; and have been heard at work frequently at night at Lewiston Heights.—

The Major General, under the supposition that he will have full employment for all the effectives of the Right Division in the ensuing Campaign, and that his force will become more efficient by the acquisition of the greater part of the present garrison of Fort Niagara, has suggested the idea of destroying that Fort, with the exception of the North Eastern Square Tower, or Stone Building, and the Rampart on the Land Side, which should be continued to the River, and well picketted, as a cover to the communication to the Tower.—

The Tower to be mounted with a Gun of heavy calibre on the top, and three smaller within a work; to be surrounded by a strong picketting, and a ditch.—For this defence, a force of about 70 men, and 15 Artillery would be sufficient. —And the remainder of the present Garrison would become disposable.—

The weather has been so excessively severe, on the Niagara Frontier lately, that it has been totally impracticable to proceed in any of the Works at Queenston, or at Mississaga Point.—

I am sorry to report to Your Excellency, that sickness is prevalent in the King's Regiment, principally ague and dysentery; and the Senior Medical Officer of the Regiment recommends their immediate removal from Niagara. Major General Riall has directed Staff Surgeon Mabee to inspect the Regiment, and report upon its state.—

From communications, which Major Holcroft, of the Royal Artillery, has had, he conceives it probable that he is shortly to be removed from the Right Division. Should

such be the case, I am convinced that much detriment would accrue to the Service, as from Major Holcroft's experience, and local information, combined with his abilities, and exertions, he is particularly calculated for the command of the Artillery on that Frontier.—

Major General Riall acquaints me, that he is constantly urging M^r^ Dance, the Assistant Commissary General, to make the greatest exertions to collect the resources of the Country, for the Service of the Troops; and he states, that the stock of Salt Provisions is very small, and the fresh meat has nearly failed altogether.—

I trust, therefore, that the moment navigation opens, an ample supply will be sent from the Lower Province.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Excellency's
Most obedient,
humble Servant,
GORDON DRUMMOND
Lt General

[*Pencil Note in margin.*] For Lt Col Bruyere's report upon the measure whether practicable in the face of a superior force & if impracticable whether the whole should fall in one grand explosion—Possessed of the Naval ascendancy on Lake Ontario Ft Niagara is invaluable, but if the Enemy obtain it—it should be destroyed.

Archives, C. 388, p. 44.

From Riall at —— to Drummond at ——.

March 15^th^ 1814

My Dear Sir

I am very sorry to inform You that desertion from the Kings Regiment in that cursed Fort not only Continues

but encreases to an alarming degree. I enclose You a letter that I received from Colonel Young yesterday reporting the loss of two Grenadiers that morning ; two other men deserted on the 12th. The Men are Sick of the place, tired & disgusted with the constant labor to which they see no end & have got sulky & dissatisfied. With the exception of those that are in the large Stone building, about 150, their Quarters are fully as good if not better than those of either of the other Regiments on the Line.

They receive a Ration of Spirits which the others do not & they receive also the Field Ration of Flour while the Treasury Ration only is issued to the Royal & 100th. It is the place & the place only that can be the cause of the dissatisfaction which Col. Young says prevails amongst them. This is an additional reason to me that the works should be compressed as much as possible, so as to make a small Garrison only necessary for its defence & which might be changed every month. I have been obliged to write you an Official letter to-day about Mr Gaugribben, I see now very plainly that I shall get nothing done if he is to continue the head of the Department here—Col: Drummond is not yet arrived here. I hope he did not venture by the Vincent which has not yet made her appearance either

Believe me Dear Sir
Yours most faithfully
P. Riall

Archives, C. 682, p. 268.

From Drummond at Kingston to Prevost at ——.

Kingston. March 26th
1814.

Sir,

23rd March 1814 I have the honor to transmit herewith a Copy of Confidential Instructions for the guidance of the Officer in

Command of the Right Division ; which I have directed to be addressed to Major General Riall, in consequence of receiving, from that Officer, the letter, of which the enclosed is a Copy.— March 10th 1814

I am well aware there are many points I have not observed upon. But as the operations of the Right Division, in particular, must be guided so much by incidental circumstances, I have thought it adviseable to express my ideas, as much as possible, in general terms.

On such points as you may consider Major General Riall should be more fully instructed, I shall be most happy to receive Your Excellency's Commands.—

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Excellency's
most obedient
humble Servant
GORDON DRUMMOND
Lt General

Archives, C. 682, p. 260.

Enclosure. From Harvey at Kingston to Riall at ——.

Most Secret &
Confidential

Deputy Adjutant Generals Office
Kingston 23rd March
1814

Sir

Lt General Drummond having had under his consideration, your Letter of the 10th of March desiring to be informed of his general Plan of Defence, as far as may be necessary for your guidance in directing the operations of the Right Division, against the attempt which there is reason to expect,

will be made by the Enemy on the Niagara Frontier, so soon as the Season for Operations commences—I have received the Commands of the L^t^ General to communicate to you the following observations and instructions.

1 The L^t^ General concurs with you as to the probability of the Enemy's acting on the offensive, as soon as the Season permits.—Having unfortunately no accurate information as to his Plans of attack, general defensive arrangements can alone be suggested.

It is highly probable that independent of the Siege of Fort Niagara, or rather in combination with the Attack on that Place, the Enemy will invade the District of Niagara by the Western Road, and that he may at the same time, land a Force at Long Point, and perhaps at Point Abino or Fort Erie. An attack of such a general and combined nature, if made as it doubtless will be in force, you can have no hope of successfully resisting by any other means, than a concentration of your whole Force at Burlington or Ancaster, leaving for the moment the Garrisons of Fort Niagara, and Fort George, to themselves, and those means of defence, which it is expected that they possess, and will most strenuously exert—

With your whole Force thus concentrated, in an advantageous and an open Position, the L^t^ General has no apprehension of your not being equal; or superior to anything that the Enemy can bring against you—On the contrary if correct information of the Enemy's movements be fortunately obtained by you, in time to enable you to effect your own concentrative movements without precipitation, (that Rock which has so often been fatal to the success of our Operations) L^t^ General Drummond feels confident that notwithstanding the Proverbial caution of General Harrison, an opportunity will be afforded you, of effecting by one Action, the Defeat, Capture or Destruction, of a considerable part of the Enemy's disposeable Force.

It is clearly to be understood, that the abandonment even for a moment, by the Troops under your Command, of their advanced Position on the Frontier for the purpose of concentrating at Burlington, is a measure which the Lt General would approve, only in the event, clearly ascertained, of the actual advance of the Enemy in great Force from the Westward.

If the Enemys principal Force be assembled on the Niagara Frontier, and smaller Bodies approach from the westward, and by Long Point, for the purpose of threatening your rear, it will be sufficient (as no serious attack will in that case be to be apprehended) if you order the Troops at Burlington to make a forward movement, for the purpose of taking a Position, say at Burford or Ancaster, or to dispute the passage of the Grand River, where the Detachments at Long Point and * Oxford, can fall back on them, and the whole with such Indians and Militia, as can be assembled, form a Corps of Observation sufficient to keep in check the Enemys Force, and cover your Rear.

The whole of the Troops on the Frontier will then become disposeable, and may it is hoped prove sufficient with the powerful Appui they will have in Fort Niagara, and Fort George, and the Aid which the Squadron may afford them, to prevent the Enemy's covering Army (for it must be recollected that the Siege of Fort Niagara, will in all probability occupy a considerable part of his Force) from being able to force back your Division from the Frontier, and by that means greatly facilitate his Operations against Fort Niagara by the possession of both Banks of the River.

In the distribution of so comparatively small a force, as you are likely to have for the defence of the Niagara Frontier, the arrangement which would naturally strike a Military Man unacquainted with the character of the Enemy he has to contend with, or with the events of the two last Campaigns on that Frontier, would be to concentrate the Troops in

some Central Position from whence they could be moved to either extremity, or to whatever Point was invaded.

Such an arrangement however would leave the extremities of the Line open to Attack, and would actually invite Invasion, and the Persons and Property of the Inhabitants would be left exposed to the outrages of the smallest Parties of the Enemy's Marauders—Experience moreover has proved that a small Force may be distributed along the Frontier without any great risque of being cut off—It is therefore L^{t} General Drummonds wish, that the Distribution of the Force should be made with reference to that of the last and preceding Campaigns, (previous to the Attack of the Enemy on Fort George on the 27th of May last,) and that all the Stations which were then occupied from Fort George to Fort Erie (but not further) should be now occupied. Change of circumstances has prescribed a change of strength of several of the Detachments—that at Fort Erie for instance, the L^{t} General conceives, need not consist of more than one strong company of Infantry, with a small Party of Artillery, sufficient to man the 24 Pounder proposed to be mounted in the Southern Demi Bastion, and this Detachment (if the arrangement pointed out by the L^{t} General to the Acting Deputy Quarter Master General, be made, would be well covered and in perfect security against any thing short of an Invasion in force—and even in the latter case, a small Party so Posted might not only very much annoy any Craft or Vessels, which might approach the Head of the River, but would operate with infinite advantage on the rear of any Force, which might venture to place itself betwixt two fires, by landing between Fort Erie and Chippawa, and even if cut off, its loss would be of no importance comparatively with the services which under an intelligent Officer, it might render—Chippawa should be *strongly* occupied (the *expression* is of course relative,) and a Detachment placed intermediately betwixt Chippawa and Fort Erie—say at Frenchman's Creek, and a rapid movement

should be made from Chippawa to support the Detachments on the Right, and to oppose any descent made from above Chippawa—

4—I now come to a proposition made by you in a former letter to L^t^ General Drummond, for reducing the extent of the works of F^t^ Niagara with a view to a reduction of its Garrison—Your Proposition will be referred to His Excellency the Commander of the Forces—But in the meantime, I am directed to observe to you that considered in a point of view, which does not appear to have struck you, L^t^. General Drummond is so far from being inclined to Diminish the Defences, or the Garrison of Fort Niagara (still less wholly to destroy or abandon that Fort,) that it appears to him, that 5 or 600 Men of your Division, cannot be better occupied, than in occupying, as they in all probability will, at least ten times their numbers—and *that* it is confidently hoped for no inconsiderable Period—

Strengthened indeed as your Division will be; by the accesion of a Regiment of upwards of 700 strong, (the 103^rd^) which will join you as soon as the navigation opens, the L^t^ General is disposed to indulge the hope, that much may be done even in the open Field, against an Enemy, the greatest part of whose Force will probably be directed against Fort Niagara—

In the reduced state contemplated by your proposal, you are aware that that place, could not possibly hold out for a single day, against the powerful means which the Enemy will be able to bring against it—By the adoption of that suggestion therefore, it appears to the L^t^ General that we should be voluntarily resigning for a possible but contingent good, all the solid advantages which the acquisition and possession of this Fort is capable of affording us, and of which besides the important one above alluded to, of occupying so large a portion of the Enemy's Force in its reduction, the benefit to the Squadron of a secure Harbour in which to take shelter,

either from the weather or from a superior Enemy, is far from being the least—to say nothing of the negative advantage of the loss of that Harbour to the Enemy.

The occupation of Fort George as a flank to Fort Niagara is essential to the defence of the latter—A Battery of a few heavy Guns to bear upon the Esplanade of Fort Niagara, should therefore be immediately compleated in Fort George.—A small Detachment, (even in the event of its becoming necessary to withdraw the whole of the Troops from the Niagara Frontier, for the purpose of a concentration at Burlington) would be sufficient to place in that Fort (George), which is in its turn protected by as it is commanded from Fort Niagara—

A Battery at Mississaga Point (Flag Staff) is highly necessary, and an enclosed one on Queenston Heights if time &c permit its completion.

5 In concluding these observations L[t] General Drummond has particularly directed me, to invite you to communicate such remarks as may suggest themselves to you, an[d] to beg that you will on all occasions freely and fully communicate your ideas, on all subjects connected with your most important command, but especially on those herein discussed.—

I am further commanded to take this occasion of assuring you of the very great satisfaction and consolation which L[t] General Drummond experiences in the reflection that the arduous trust connected with the command of the Right Division at this critical juncture, is reposed in an Officer of such tried zeal, activity and ability as yourself

I have the honor to be &c

(Signed) J. Harvey
L[t] Col D.A.G.

[*Note in red ink in margin*]. * The Detachments at these places should be considered as mere advanced Parties of observation from and to keep up the communication with the

Corps at Burlington—A Company of Infantry with a small body of cavalry and a few Militia and Grand Riou Indians would be quite sufficient at each of these places.—

J. H.

Archives, C. 388, p. 61.

From Drummond at Kingston to Prevost at ——.

Kingston. April 5th 1814.

Sir,

Desirous of affording every assistance within my control to Major General Riall, in the important command he holds on the Niagara Frontier, I have the honor to acquaint Your Excellency, that I have directed Lieutenant Colonel Drummond, Acting Deputy Quarter Master General, to repair thither, some time since, and to remain there, until matters should assume an aspect of more promise, than they have hitherto done, as far as regards the Works of Defence ordered to be erected upon that Line.—And the whole time of Captain Sabine, Acting Deputy Assistant Quarter Master General here, being occupied in the detail of the duties of the Office, there is not an Officer of the Department disposeable, upon whom I could call for active service on an emergency ; Permit me, therefore, to request, that Your Excellency will be pleased to direct Captain Fowler to join the Department here ; if he can be spared from the Lower Province ; if not, any active and intelligent Officer you think proper.—

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Excellency's
most obedient
humble Servant
Gordon Drummond
Lt General

Archives, C. 683, p. 258.

From Drummond at Kingston to Prevost at ——.

Kingston. June 7th
1814.

Sir,

By a report I have received from the Right Division, I find, that the Traitor, Westbrook, who formerly lived near Delaware Town, made his appearance with about 30 Riflemen, of the Enemy, at Port Talbot, on the Evening of the 20th Ultimo ; where they made Prisoners, Captain Wilson of the Militia, and the Miller, as also Captain Patterson, at the house of Colonel Talbot.—The Miller effected his escape ; but the others were obliged to take an Oath, similar to that administered to the Inhabitants of the new Settlement ; under pain of their houses being immediately burnt, as well as all others in the neighbourhood.—This Party came from the Westward ; did but little damage ; and returned, after a very short stay, through apprehension of their retreat being cut off, by the assembling of the Militia, on the information of the man, who made his escape.—

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Excellency's
most obedient
humble Servant,
GORDON DRUMMOND
Lt General

Archives, C. 683, p. 283.

From Drummond at Kingston to Prevost at ——.

2 O'Clock. P:M:

Kingston June 16th
1814.

Sir,

I have just now heard, that Captn Fisher had surmounted all the difficulties of the Rapids, and arrived with the Gun

boats, at Prescott.—But I regret to say, that he reports many Absentees.—Those only, whom he left at Montreal, does he expect to join; the others, missed upon the Route, he apprehends have deserted—

The Squadron got under way, yesterday, with a light but favorable wind. But as it shifted almost immediately afterwards, they were obliged to drop Anchor, within Snake Island, until this morning; when a wind from the Eastward again springing up afforded them the opportunity of proceeding for their destination, the Head of the Lake, and Niagara.—The Prince Regent slightly touched ground on attempting to get out yesterday; but did not receive the smallest damage—

Major General Riall reports, under date of the 10th Instant, that the Magnet had arrived safe, with the last Division of the 103rd Regt at Burlington; and that all was perfectly quiet on the Niagara Frontier—

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Excellency's
most obedient,
humble Servant,
GORDON DRUMMOND
Lt General

Archives, C. 78, p. 70.

From Loring at Kingston to Freer at ——.

Kingston, 21 June 1814.

Sir,

I have had the honor of receiving Your letter of the 17th instant signifying that His Excellency the Commander of the forces had been pleased to issue his Warrant on the Commissary General for the sum of Five Thousand pounds, for the Militia Service in this Province to the 24th ultimo, in

compliance with L^t General Drummond's requisition; And I am directed by the L^t General to express his regret at the inability of the Deputy Commissary General here to discharge it, until he shall receive a Supply of Money from below, a circumstance which will, it is feared, create much discontent amongst the Militia, who have been led to expect that their subsistence would be regularly paid.

His Honor therefore begs to signify, thro' me, his anxious desire that this sum be sent up with as little delay as possible.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your Most Obedient
humble Servant,
ROBERT R. LORING
Secretary.

Archives, C. 683, p. 306.

From Drummond at Kingston to Prevost at ——.

Kingston. June 28^th 1814

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit a Copy of Intelligence received from two Deserters from the 26^th United States Regiment, who left Sandwich about a month since.—

Major General Riall's last Report, of the 23^rd Instant stating, that, from the movements of the Enemy on the Niagara Line, he conceived an attack to be meditated by them, at no great distance of time, I have thought proper to permit the 8^th Regiment to remain on the immediate Frontier, removing all their Sick and Convalescents only to York. And, as a present Garrison for that Place, I have directed the Glengary Light Infantry, under Lieutenant Colonel Battersby, to proceed thither ; the first Division having left Kingston, this morning, by Water conveyance of course, for that purpose.—

This Corps will then be at hand for a reinforcement to Burlington, or to relieve the King's Regiment upon the Frontier, should it's Sickness encrease.—I have been induced to continue the 8th Regt at Niagara, as well from Major General Riall's Report, as from information, that the Enemy are advancing Troops from Sackett's Harbour daily to the Westward :—and, besides, it is expected, that the Enemy's Fleet, including its new large Ship, lately launched, will be ready to take the Lake, with a very great preponderance of force on the 1st of the ensuing month.—

On the subject of the River Communication between the two Provinces being molested by the Enemy, and Your Excellency's opinion thereon, I have communicated with Sir James Yeo.—He has taken measures for affording to every Brigade of Batteaux or Craft, a suitable convoy of Gun boats ; which I trust will preserve it from injury, if not from insult.—

Major General Riall states, that a Flag of Truce had been sent to the neighbourhood of Fort Niagara, from Major General Brown, relative to a Lady, whose husband resides in Canada, being permitted to join him.—Major General Riall took the opportunity, by Major Glegg, to enquire of the bearer of the Flag, a Major Jones, if he brought any reply to his Letter, sent to General Scott, some time since, to be forwarded to Col. Campbell, at Presq'Isle, and the more particularly as that Officer was known to be at the time at Buffaloe. The Major replied, It was far from General Brown's wish, that it should be conceived any disrespect was intended, but that Major General Riall's letter had been transmitted to the President ; and that a Court of Enquiry was then sitting to investigate the conduct of Colonel Campbell.—Major Jones who observed, that he believed the circumstances attending that Expedition were very much exaggerated ; for that he understood from Officers present, that nothing but Mills, in some degree public property, had been destroyed.—When Major Glegg assured him, that almost

every house at Dover was destroyed, he replied, that he, and all the Officers in their Service, lamented the occurrence of such a circumstance; for they had hoped, that an end had been put to such mode of Warfare; that it was incumbent on them, more than on us, to refrain from it; as we had it in our power to retaliate upon their Coast, in a tenfold degree, to anything they could do to us.—Major General Riall expects to hear from General Brown on this subject.—

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your Excellency's
most obedient,
humble Servant,
GORDON DRUMMOND
L[t] General

James.

From Major-general Brown to the American secretary at war.

Chippeway Plains, July 6, 1814.

Sir,

Excuse my silence; I have been much engaged: Fort-Erie did not, as I assured you it should not, detain me a single day. At 11 o'clock on the night of the 4[th], I arrived at this place with the reserve, general Scott having taken the position about noon with the van. My arrangements for turning and taking in the rear the enemy's position east of Chippeway was made; when major-jeneral Riall, suspecting our intention, and adhering to the rule, that it is better to give than to receive an attack, came from behind his works at about 5 o'clock in the afternoon of the 5th in order of battle. We did not baulk him. Before 6 o'clock his line was broken and his forces defeated, leaving on the field 400 killed and wounded. He was closely pressed, and would have been utterly ruined, but for the proximity of his works, whither he fled for shelter.

The wounded of the enemy, and those of our own army,

must be attended to. They will be removed to Buffaloe. This, with my limited means of transportation, will take a day or two, after which I shall advance, not doubting but that the gallant and accomplished troops I lead, will break down all opposition between me and Lake Ontario, when, if met by the fleet, all is well, if not, under the favour of heaven, we shall behave in a way to avoid disgrace. My detailed report shall be made in a day or two.

I am, with the highest respect, &c.

Hon. secretary of War. JACOB BROWN.

James.

American return of killed, wounded, and missing, in the affair of Chippeway, July 5th, 1815

Artillery ;—4 rank and file, killed ; 8 ditto, wounded ; and 8 rank and file, missing.

9th *regiment* ;—13 rank and file, killed ; 1 captain, 2 subalterns, 2 serjeants, 39 rank and file, wounded.

11th *ditto* ;—1 serjeant, 14 rank and file, killed ; 1 colonel, 1 subaltern, 6 serjeants, 52 rank and file, wounded.

19th *ditto* ;—3 rank and file, killed ; 2 ditto, wounded.

22d *ditto* ;—8 rank and file, killed ; 1 captain, 2 subalterns, 2 serjeants, 41 rank and file, wounded.

25th *ditto* ;—1 serjeant, 4 rank and file, killed ; 1 captain, 2 subalterns, 4 serjeants, 62 rank and file, wounded.

Militia ;—3 rank and file, killed ; 2 ditto, wounded ; 1 lieutenant-colonel, 1 major, 1 captain, 2 serjeants, 2 rank and file, missing.

Indians ;—9 rank and file, killed ; 4 ditto, wounded ; 10 ditto, missing.

Total ;—2 serjeants, 58 rank and file, killed ; 1 colonel, 3 captains, 7 subalterns, 14 serjeants, 210 rank and file, wounded ; 1 lieutenant-colonel, 1 major, 1 captain, 2 serjeants, 14 rank and file, missing.

Archives, C. 684, p. 44.

From Drummond at Kingston to Prevost at ——.

Kingston, July 9th 1814.

Sir,

I have the honor to acquaint Your Excellency, that, at a late hour, last night, I received a Report, from Major General Riall, dated Chippawa, the 5th Instant; in which he informs me, that, on the morning of the 3rd the Enemy landed, opposite to Black Rock, in considerable force.—The Major General immediately moved forward with Five Companies of the Royal Regiment, to Chippawa.

On the 4th the Enemy occupied a position, along the Banks of the Creek, which runs from the River, by Mr Street's House, to the Wood.—

Being in hourly expectation, that the King's Regiment would join him from York, (which it did on the 5th) Major General Riall did not move forward to the attack of the Enemy, until Four O'Clock of the afternoon of that day.—I regret, however, to state, that the Major General found it necessary, to retire on the Position at Chippawa; after having sustained a severe loss, not far short, I am apprehensive, of 500, in Officers and Men.—The Enemy's loss must have been very considerable.—

It is with great satisfaction I have to report to Your Excellency the very high terms in which Major General Riall expresses himself of the steadiness and good conduct of the Troops; but the superior numbers to which his force was opposed, (for I imagine they could scarcely have exceeded one thousand men) rendered their gallant efforts unavailing.—

By information received from Prisoners, it appears, that the American Army was estimated at 6000 Men, with a considerable train of Artillery.—They were commanded by Generals Browne, Scott, Ripley, and Porter.—From the same source the Major General was made acquainted with the Capture, by Capitulation, of Fort Erie, on Sunday last.—

The 100th Regt has suffered severely, having had 12 Officers killed and wounded; the Royal Regiment has lost in the same proportion.—I am concerned to add, that amongst the wounded are Lieutenant Colonel Gordon, Lieutenant Colonel the Marquis of Tweedale, and Captain Holland, Aide-de-Camp to Major General Riall.—

The Major General had not accurately ascertained, what are the intentions of the Enemy as to their subsequent operations; but he was inclined to think their efforts would be directed towards turning the Right of his Position at Chippawa.—

Major General Riall's Official Report has not yet been transmitted to me; but the moment it arrives, it shall be forwarded to Your Excellency.—

Major Clifford, with three Companies of the 89th Regt. arrived, here, on Thursday; they proceed, with the Light Company, this morning to the Right Division.—I expect Lieutenant Colonel Morrison, to-morrow, with the remainder in the course of the day; when they shall be pushed forward also.—

I request Your Excellency will be pleased to expedite the movement of the 6th and 82nd Regts to this Place; as the Garrison is extremely deficient in strength; consisting only of the 104th & De Watteville's Regiments. And that you will be pleased also to order such Officers of the Royal Regiment, and of the 100th as may now be in the Lower Province to join their Regiments without delay.—

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Excellency's
most obedient,
humble Servant,
GORDON DRUMMOND
Lt General

P:S: Commodore Sir James Yeo has just called upon me, and requested I would represent to Your Excellency the

necessity of the Stores and equipment of the New Ship on the Stocks being hurried forward ; as from the strength of the Yard at present he is in expectation she will be launched before her Stores have arrived, which he is in hopes will take place by the middle of next month.—

G. D.

Archives, C. 684, p. 57.

From Drummond at Kingston to Prevost at ——.

Kingston, July 10th 1814.

Sir,

July 6th 1814 I have the honor to transmit herewith a Copy of Major General Riall's Official Report, on the subject of the Landing of the Enemy, between Chippawa, and Fort Erie, on the 3rd Instant, and of the Major General's Attack upon their Position, on the 5th.—

It is highly satisfactory to observe that the gallantry, and steadiness of British Soldiers, was conspicuous throughout the conduct of every individual engaged ; and that 2nd Regt of Lincoln Militia, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Dickson, which composed part of the Advance under Lieutenant Colonel Pearson, equally distinguished themselves; although their brave and vigorous efforts proved unavailing against the prodigious superiority in point of numbers, which the Enemy possessed, and which induced the Major General to withdraw his small force to the Position at Chippawa.—

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Excellency's
most obedient,
humble Servant,
Gordon Drummond
Lt General.

Archives, C. 684, p. 51.

Enclosure. From Riall at Chippawa to Drummond at Kingston.

Copy/

Chippawa, July 6th 1814

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that the Enemy effected a landing on the morning of the 3rd Inst. at the Ferry opposite to Black Rock, having driven in the picquet of the Garrison of Fort Erie ; I was made acquainted with this circumstance about 8 in the morning and gave orders for the immediate advance to Chippawa of 5 Companies of the Royal Scots under Lieut. Colonel Gordon to reinforce the Garrison of that place. Lieut. Colonel Pearson had moved forward from thence with the Flank Companies of the 100th, some militia and a few Indians to reconnoitre their Position and numbers ; he found them posted on the Ridge parallel with the river near the Ferry, and in strong force. I received information from Major Buck that they had also landed a considerable Force above Fort Erie. In consequence of the King's Regiment which I had every reason to expect the day before from York not having arrived I was prevented from making an attack that night.

The following morning, the 4th a Body of their Troops were reported to be advancing by the River, I moved forward to reconnoitre, and found them to be in considerable Force with Cavalry and Artillery, and a large body of Rifle Men. Lieut. Colonel Pearson was in advance during this Reconnaisance with the Light Company of the Royal Scots, and the Flank Companies of the 100th and a few of the 19th Lt. Dragoons, four of whom, and Eight horses were wounded in a Skirmish with the Enemys Rifle Men.

Having been joined by the King's Regiment on the Morning of the 5th I made my dispositions for attack at

4 o'Clock in the afternoon. The Light Companies of the Royal Scots, King's and 100th Regt. with the 2nd Lincoln Militia formed the advance under Lieut. Colonel Pearson, the Indian Warriors were thrown out on our right flank in the woods.—The Troops moved in three Columns, the third (the King's Regiment) being in reserve. The Enemy had taken up a Position with his right resting on some Buildings and Orchards close on the River Niagara and strongly supported by artillery. His left towards the wood, having a considerable Body of Riflemen and Indians in front of it.

The Indians and Militia were shortly engaged with the Enemy's Rifle Men and Indians who at first checked their advance, but the Light Troops being brought to their support, they succeeded after a sharp contest in dislodging them in a very handsome style. I placed two light 24 Pdrs. and a 5½ inch. Howr. against the right of the Enemy's Position, and formed the Royal Scots and 100th Regts. with the intention of making a movement upon his left—our right supported with three Lt. 6 prs.—on these two Regiments advancing for this purpose, the Enemy moved a very heavy Column towards the front of his left which deployed with the greatest regularity and opened a very heavy fire.

I immediately moved up the Kings Regiment to the right while the Royal Scots and 100th Regt. were directed to charge the Enemy in front, for which they advanced with the greatest Gallantry, under a most destructive fire. I am sorry to say, however, in this attempt they suffered so severely that I was obliged to withdraw them, finding their further Efforts against the superior numbers of the Enemy would be unavailing. Lieut. Colonel Gordon and Lieut. Colonel, The Marquis of Tweeddale Commanding these Regiments being wounded, as were most of the officers belonging to each, I directed a retreat to be made upon Chippawa, which was conducted with good order and regularity, covered by the Kings Regt. under Major Evans, and the Light Troops

under L^t^. Colonel Pearson, and I have pleasure in saying that not a single prisoner fell into the Enemy's hands, except those who were disabled from wounds.

1 B^s^ Royals 500
1 B^s^ Kings 480
100 Reg 450
One Troop of the 19^th^ L^t^ Dg^s^ and a Proportion of Royal Artillery.

From the report of some Prisoners we have made the Enemy's force amounted to about 6000 Men with a very numerous train of Artillery, having been augumented by a very large body of Troops which moved down from Fort Erie, immediately before the commencement of the Action.—Our own force in regular Troops amounted to 1500 *[1] exclusive of the Militia and Indians, of which last description there were not above three hundred.—

Port Erie, I understand, surrendered upon Capitulation on the 3^rd^ Inst.

Although this affair was not attended with the success which I had hoped for, it will be highly gratifying to you to learn that the officers and men behaved with the greatest gallantry. I am particularly indebted to Lieu^t^. Colonel Pearson for the very great assistance I have received from him, and for the manner in which he led his light Troops into action, Lieu^t^. Colonel Gordon, and L^t^. Colonel, The Marquis of Tweeddale, and Major Evans, comm^g^. the King's Reg^t^. merit my warmest praise, for the good example they shewed at the head of their respective regiments. The Artillery under the command of Cap^t^. Mackonachie was ably served and directed with good effect, and I am particularly obliged to Major Lisle of the 19^th^ L^t^. Dragoons for the manner in which he covered and protected one of the 24 p^rs^. which had been disabled. I have reason to be highly satisfied with the zeal, activity and Intelligence of Cap^t^. Holland my Aide de Camp, Cap^t^. Eliot, D^y^. Ass^t^. Quarter Master General, Staff Adjutant Greig, and Lieu^t^. Fox of the Royal Scots, who acted as Major of Brigade during the absence of Major Glegg at Fort George. The conduct of L^t^. Colonel Dixon of the 2^nd^ Lincoln Militia has been most exemplary and I am very much

[1] This number and the marginal entries are in a different hand.

indebted to him for it on this, as well as on other occasions in which he has evinced the greatest Zeal for His Majesty's Service; the conduct of the officers and Men of this regiment has also been highly praiseworthy. Lieu[t]. Colonel Pearson has reported to me in the most favourable terms the excellent manner in which Lieu[t]. Horton with a party of the 19[th] L[t]. Dragoons observed the motions of the Enemy while he occupied the position he took on his first landing, and during his advance to this place.

I have the Honor to be,
&c &c
(Signed) P. RIALL
M Gen[l].

Names of Officers Killed

1[st] Batt[n]. Royal Scots—Captain Bailly.

100[th] Regiment
- Lieutenant Gibbons.
- Ensign Rea.

Militia
- Captain
  - Rowe
  - Turney
- Lieutn[t]. McDonell

Officers Wounded

General Staff—Captain Holland, Aide de Camp to Major Gen[l] Riall, severely, not dangerously

Royal Artillery Drivers—Lieutenant Jack, Slightly

1[st] Battalion Royal Scots.—
- Lieut[t] Colonel Gordon—Slightly
- Captains—
  - Bird
  - Wilson

  Severely and Prisoners
- Lieutenants
  - W. Campbell, Severely.
  - Fox, Severely not dangerously
  - Jackson do do
  - Hendrick do do
  - McDonald, Slightly
  - A. Campbell, Severely
  - Connell, do

Return of the Killed, Wounded and Missing of the Right Division in Action with the Enemy in Advance of Chippawa 5th July 1814.

Regiments.	Killed.						Wounded.						Missing.						Horses.	
	Field Officers.	Captains.	Subalterns.	Serjeants.	Drummers.	Rank and File.	Field Officers.	Captains.	Subalterns.	Serjeants.	Drummers.	Rank and File.	Field Officers.	Captains.	Subalterns.	Serjeants.	Drummers.	Rank and File.	Killed.	Missing.
General Staff . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Royal Artillery . .	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Royal Artillery Drivers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..
19th Light Dragoons .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
1st/or/Royal Scots .	..	1	..	4	..	58	1	2	7	4	..	121	..	..	..	..	..	30	..	..
8th or Kings Regiment	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	1	1	..	22	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
100th Regiment . .	..	..	2	3	..	64	1	2	6	11	..	114	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Militia	..	2	1	..	..	9	1	..	3	1	..	11	..	..	..	1	..	14	..	..
Total . .	..	3	3	7	..	135	3	5	18	18	..	277	..	..	1	1	..	44	2	1

One 24 pounder Limber blown up.
Two Tumbrills damaged. — }

N.B.—The men Returned missing are supposed to be Killed and Wounded

(Signed) J. Harvey Lt Colonel
Depy Adjt. General

8th Regiment—Lieutenant Boyde ——

100th Regiment
- Lieut. Colonel The Marquis of Tweedale, Severely not dangerously
- Captains
  - Sherrard do do
  - Sleigh—Severely
- Lieutenants
  - Williams ——
  - Lyon ——
  - Valentine ——
  - Fortune, Wounded and Missing, supposed Prisoner
- Ensigns
  - Clarke ——
  - Johnson ——
- Adjutant Kingston ——

Militia —
- Lieu. Colonel Dickson, Slightly.
- Lieutenants
  - Clement, Severely.
  - Bowman, Slightly.
- Ensign Kirkpatrick, dangerously.

Archives, C. 684, p. 59

From Drummond at Kingston to Prevost at ——.

Confidential.

Kingston. July 10th 1814.

Dear Sir,

Your Excellency will receive by the same conveyance Major General Riall's Official Report of his attack on the Enemy in their Position at Street's Creek.—

The conduct of the Troops and Militia appears to have been highly creditable, and nothing but the exceedingly unequal numbers of the Enemy could have prevented the attack having been crowned with complete success.

Our Artillery was well served. And a disabled Brass 24 Pounder, which had its Limber blown up, and the two Shaft Horses killed, was saved, principally, by the exertions of Major Lisle, of the 19th Light Dragoons.—

The Enemy deployed into Line, and withstood our attacks with the greatest steadiness.

They are now understood to be establishing Batteries, under cover of the Wood, in front of the Position at Chippawa; from which Major General Riall is apprehensive he will be under the necessity of retiring, as his force is so considerably diminished, from the casualties of the Action, and from the Fall of Fort Erie.—

I regret extremely the loss of this Place; which I had the strongest hopes would have made an excellent defence, or, at all events, held the Enemy in check for some days.—I felt the more confident in this expectation, from Captain Marlow's Report of it, on his return from that Frontier.—

Our Indian Allies, as usual, proved of little service.—There were but few on the ground, about 200 under Norton, and about 100 of the Western Tribes: and these penetrated too far into the woods, to afford the assistance required of them.—

I perceive, that the Major General has omitted, in the haste of transmission, I presume, the numbers he had on the ground.—The Royals took into the Field about 500, half of whom have been killed, or are disabled for the present: the 100th I suppose about 450, have suffered in even a greater proportion, and have not now more than four duty Officers remaining: the King's I imagine to have been, from the Embarkation Returns from York, about 400, has not experienced much loss.—

These with the Artillery, 19th Dragoons, and Lincoln Militia, would constitute a force of about 1500.—

I beg, therefore, again to request that every absent Officer of these Corps be ordered to join forthwith; as well as Lieut. Colonel Ogilvie, of the King's Reg^{t}, Colonel Young being on his way from York to Montreal, and there being consequently but one Field Officer with the Regiment.

I have been happy to learn the arrival at Queenston of the

Incorporated Militia under Captain Robinson, of the King's Regiment. This is the only disposeable Corps I had left to send.—But as soon as the 89th which leaves this to-day, under Lieut. Colonel Morrison arrives at York, I propose pushing forward the Glengary Light Infantry to Burlington to support Major General Riall, or with the 103rd Regt to sustain that Post.—And I have placed the two Flank Companies of the 104th Regt, completed to 60 each, under Lieut. Colonel Drummond, for the purpose of acting, with the Indians, in that direction also, as circumstances may require.—

I fear we shall suffer much difficulty in feeding all this force, Mr Cooche having received a letter from Mr Turquand this day, expressing his apprehensions of a failure in the Article of Flour : which it is totally impossible to assist them in from Kingston, from the want of means of transport from hence. I have even been under the necessity of taking twelve Batteaux, from the Brigades, which arrived yesterday, to forward the 89th Regt to York.—

I am happy, however, to observe, that General Riall states, there is a sufficiency of Provisions, in each of the three Forts, for the supply of their Garrisons, until our Fleet can take the Lake again.—

Major General Riall has heard, that the Enemy are collecting a Force at Detroit.—

The Marquis of Tweedale's wound is in the Leg, and severe ; Lieut. Colonel Gordon's in the Chin, and Neck ; Captain Hollands in the Head and through the left Hand ; Captains Sleigh, and Sherrard, in three places, each, the former supposed to be mortal.—The General himself was struck on the Hip, but without further injury than to tear his Coat.—

Sir James Yeo has received a letter from a very intelligent Officer of the Navy captured at Sandy Creek.—He states, that the Enemy's new Ship Superior is very low between decks, and carries 32 Pounders, her Ports very close.—The new Ship Mohawk is less by a Port on each side than the Prince Regent.—

This Officer had a good opportunity of viewing the Works of Defence at Sackett's Harbour; which he states to have been considerably strengthened; and so much so as to require at least 7000 Men to ensure success against them.—

I have the honor to be,
Dear Sir,
Your Excellency's
most obedient,
humble Servant,
GORDON DRUMMOND
L[t] General.

Archives, C. 684, p. 72.

From Drummond at Kingston to Prevost at ——.

Kingston. July 11[th] 1814.

Dear Sir,

I have just now received a communication, from Major General Riall, of the 7[th] Instant, in the afternoon, observing upon the omission in his Publick Despatch, of the same day, of the number of Men engaged under his command at Street's Creek, which he should have inserted, (as I imagined,) at Fifteen Hundred.

The Major General also states, that previous to his attack upon the Enemy's Position, he had, with Lieutenant Colonel Pearson, reconnoitred them, at an early hour in the day, with much precision; when, from the extent of ground their Encampment occupied, and other observations, from the information of Militia Men of good character, and intelligence, and of Indians who got close to them, and climbed Trees to overlook their Position, he was induced to believe, that their Force did not exceed 2000 Men. And, as the Major General had not heard, at that time, of the Fall of Fort Erie, he concluded there must have been a strong force

occupied in it's investment. These observations proved perfectly just, for the Enemy was joined but a few hours afterwards by that strong force from above.—

Colonel Scott, Commanding at Burlington, has directed Lieutenant Colonel Parry to fall back, to the Grand River, from Long Point.—By this means the communication between those two Officers, may be preserved; or Lieut. Colonel Parry can retire, still further, upon Burlington, if occasion should require.—

I have received likewise a letter of the 8th Instant, from Major General Riall.—Nothing of moment had occurred, since the attack on the 5th The Enemy still occupies the same Position.—And on the 7th received a reinforcement of 400 Men.—Their loss in the action of the 5th appears to have been, from good authority, very severe.—They suffered much from the fire of our Artillery.—Brigadier General Scott is amongst the wounded, being shot through the Foot.—Not a single Indian, scarcely, had remained, with the Major General, at Chippawa.—

I have the honor to transmit the Copy of Information received from a person sent, from hence, to Sackett's Harbour, on the morning of the 8th Instant.—

I have the honor to be, Dear Sir,
Your Excellency's most obedient,
humble Servant,
Gordon Drummond
Lt General

P:S: Since writing the foregoing I have received information from a source to be depended on, that the plan of the Enemy is to wait the result of their Army's proceedings on the Niagara Frontier, in the expectation that General Riall will be driven back by degrees; when their Fleet is to leave Sackett's Harbour with a strong Force on board, which is to be landed at the 40, or 50, Mile Creek, in General

Rialls Rear, and thus get possession of the Provisions and Stores at Burlington.—This informant left Sackett's Harbour, on the 2nd Instant.—

G. D.

Archives, C. 684, p. 66.

From Drummond at Kingston to Prevost at ——.

Kingston. ½ past 6 O'Clock,
P : M : July 11th 1814.

(A Copy)

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit herewith a Despatch, this minute received, from Major General Riall, stating that the Enemy had crossed the Chippawa, about a mile and half from it's mouth, whereby the Major General was under the necessity of retiring from that Position.—

The Letter alluded to by the Major General as having been sent by Express the preceding night, has not yet reached me.—

I trust Your Excellency will see the pressing necessity of expediting the intended reinforcements for this Place; which I cannot avoid expressing my anxiety about, from it's present very defenceless state, in consequence of the reduced numbers of the Garrison; as it is impossible to say what may be the intentions of the Enemy on leaving Sackett's Harbour, when they will probably be accompanied by a considerable Land Force.—It is natural to suppose, that they obtain as good information of our Force here, as we do of their's, at Sackett's Harbour.—

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Excellency's
most obedient,
humble servant,
Gordon Drummond
Lt General

Archives, C. 684, p. 65.

Enclosure. From Riall at Fort George to Drummond at Kingston.

Copy/

Fort George, July 9th 1814

Sir,

I wrote you last night by Express to inform you the Enemy had passed the Chippawa, about a Mile and half above the Village and obliged me to retire from that position—

I understand his advance is this morning at St Davids, an Officer of the Provincial Dragoons who was there to watch them having been fired on by some Dragoons. Our wounded are just gone off to York in the Schooners. My whole force has retired here, without having left any thing to fall into the hands of the Enemy—

I have the honor to be
&c
(Signed) P. Riall
M Gen[l]

Archives, C. 684, p. 85.

From Drummond at Kingston to Prevost at ——.

Kingston. July 13th 1814

Sir,

Major General Riall's Official Despatch, of the 8th Instant, has just now reached me.—By the enclosed Copy Your Excellency will perceive, that the Enemy having crossed the Chippawa, in two places, above the Village, the Major General thought proper to retire upon Forts George and Mississauga.

The Flank Companies of the Royal Scots, with three Field Pieces, under Lieutenant Colonel Pearson, attempted to oppose them in the Passage of the River; but, covered as their advance was by seven Guns, it was found impossible to prevent them.—

The Enemy have established themselves at Queenston; where, they have placed Guns on M^r^ Hamilton's House; and have commenced fortifying the Heights;—as appears by a further communication from the Major General of the 10^th^ Instant; wherein he also represents, that every exertion is making to resist any attack, which may be made on the Forts, George or Mississauga: although he considers the former in so defective a state of defence, as to be incapable of holding out for any length of time, should it be seriously bombarded.—

With the superior force of the Enemy, covered as it is with numerous Light Troops, and Indians, the Major General feels it at present impossible, especially as he is now deprived of both of those means, to give them much effectual interruption in their operations, without reinforcements.—

Lieut. Colonel Pearson had just returned, as Major General Riall's letter was sent off, from reconnoitring the Enemy's Position at Queenston.—They had not any advanced party at the distance of a Mile from that place.—

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Excellency's
most obedient,
humble Servant,
GORDON DRUMMOND
L^t^ General

Archives, C. 684, p. 90.

From Drummond at Kingston to Prevost at ——.

Private.

Kingston. July 13^th^ 1814.

Dear Sir,

The Official Despatch of Major General Riall, sent by this same Express, was forwarded to York by Water; which

in consequence of tempestuous weather caused the delay in the receipt of it here.

The Major General is strongly inclined to think, that the intentions of the Enemy are shortly to invest the Forts, upon which he has retired. And although he is apprehensive, Fort George is not capable of much resistance; yet, he assures me, that every possible exertion shall be made to place it [in] the best state of defence that time and means will permit.

The Indians, he says, have behaved most shamefully; literally speaking, not one remaining, of the hundreds that were with him, prior to the retreat.—

Such of the Militia as are disposed to keep the Field, the Major General has ordered to rendezvous at Burlington.—

Several Officers, and 120 Men, wounded, have arrived at York in the Schooners.—

From the report of a Deserter it appears, that the Enemy lost about 500 Men, in the Action of the 5th this number they could well afford; but to us it was the loss of one third of our force.—

The Royals, & 100th Regt are in the greatest want for Officers.—The latter has but one Captain, & 3 Subalterns, doing duty, and about 250 effective Men.—

Major General Riall calls upon me strongly for, and indeed expects, reinforcements; But Your Excellency must be well aware, that I have not a man to send him; and that those expected from the Lower Province cannot be calculated at arriving higher than Cornwall, before the latter end of this week.—I have, however, ordered the Glengary Light Infantry to proceed to Burlington, and the 89th on its arrival at York, leaving there it's Boy Companies, to follow the same Route.—

I have likewise made some further arrangements, which shall be communicated to Colonel Baynes, by the Deputy Adjutant General, for Your Excellency's information.—

And as Troops cannot be forwarded without Provisions, I have requested Sir James Yeo to send his two Brigs up, immediately, with as much Flour & Pork, as they can carry, to York and Burlington.

As soon as the five Companies of Canadian Fencibles arrive here, I propose proceeding to Burlington, myself; and with the force I shall collect there, endeavour to form a junction with Major General Riall.—

York, in the meantime, will be protected by such of the 89th & Glengary Light Infantry. as are unfit for more active service, by a Body of Militia, and perhaps by the Crew of the Star, Brig.—

I have the honor to remain,
Dear Sir,
Your Excellency's
most obedient,
humble Servant,
GORDON DRUMMOND
Lt General

Secret *Archives*, C. 684, p. 88.

Arrangement for Collecting a Force at Burlington—

The Glengary Light Infantry to be pushed on to Burlington from York without waiting for the Arrival of the 89th Regt (leaving all Non effectives at York.—

The 89th to push on in like manner to Burlington leaving the 2 Boy Companies and all Non effectives and incumbrances at York.—Lt Col Morrison to take with him the 2 Brass 6 Pdr Field Pieces under Lieut Armstrong from York.—

One wing of the Regiment De Watteville to be pushed up to Burlington immediately; the other to be in readiness to follow on the arrival at or near Kingston of the Head of the 6th or 82nd Regt.—

Five Companies of the Canadian Regiment to Kingston, without waiting for the 104th going down.—

The latter Regiment (104th) to remain at Kingston until further orders.—

If found necessary Commodore Sir James Yeo must be applied to to land 200 of the Marine Battalion for the Garrison of Point Frederick until the arrival of the 82nd.—

Lt General Drummond intends proceeding to the Head of the Lake in a few days, to assume the Command of the Troops assembling there.—The following Officers of the Staff will accompany him. Viz:

The Officers of his Personal Staff. Including A.G. of Mila.

Dy Adjutant General and his Assistant.

Dy Quarter Master General & one Assistant (Capt. Powell).

Major Phillot Commandg Artillery.

Quarter Master General of Militia.

(Signed) J. Harvey
D.A.G.

Archives, C. 684, p. 101.

From Drummond at Kingston to Prevost at ——.

Kingston. July 15th 1814.

Sir,

Since my letter to Your Excellency of the 13th Instant I have not had any communication from Major General Riall.—

I have received letters from Colonel Scott, at Burlington, stating his intentions of removing to the 40 Mile Creek, his Force at present being the 103rd Regt, a Detachment of the 19th Dragoons, about 1000 Militia, and some Indians, but whose numbers he could scarcely ascertain.—I have disapproved of this movement, and directed him to return and retain his Post at Burlington; as well as to dismiss all the too young, elderly, and inactive Men of the Militia, as I consider he is much better without such description of force,

and to keep only those of healthy and serviceable appearance, as well from this reason, as that it would be impossible to provision such numbers.—

Major General Conran shall be pushed on, to Burlington, without delay, on his arrival here.—

The 89th Regt is, I trust, now well on it's way to York, from the Carrying Place ; from whence it proceeds by Land.—

This day has been so boisterous from the Westward, as to prevent the Right Wing of De Watteville's Regiment from leaving this by Water. It will proceed by Land to-morrow morning.—The Left Wing on the arrival of the 82nd Regt

Three Companies of the Canadian Regt arrived here this morning.—

Although I should have wished it, I am apprehensive I shall not have it in my power to forward any further re-inforcements to the Right Division, from the inability of the Commissariat to supply Provisions. And in fact I even dread their failing in due supplies to those already ordered there.—

I acquainted Your Excellency in my "Private" Letter of the 13th Instant, that I had been under the necessity of calling on Commodore Sir James Yeo to send up his two Brigs, the Star, & Charwell, with Flour & Pork.—One sailed yesterday ; the other is now taking in her cargo, and will be ready to proceed this night, if the wind, at present foul, permits ; and if the Enemy's Fleet does not prove to have taken the Lake.—Two of their Vessels were telegraphed this morning as being off Pidgeon Island.—

I propose leaving this on Sunday morning for Burlington.—

I have the honor to be Sir,
Your Excellency's most obedient,
humble Servant,
Gordon Drummond
Lt General

Archives, C. 684, p. 116.

From Drummond at Kingston to Prevost at ——.

Copy/ Kingston. July 16th 1814.

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit a Despatch, from Major General Riall, of the 12th Instant, covering a Copy of the opinions of the Officers of Royal Artillery, and Royal Engineers, upon the State of the Defences, and means of Resistance, of the three Forts, at the mouth of the River Niagara.—

I approve of the Major General's moving on Burlington.—But I am of opinion he cannot make any serious impression upon the Enemy, with the force he at present has ; as little reliance can be placed on the numbers of the Militia, and still less on the Indians.—I trust, however, that when the reinforcement of DeWatteville's Regt shall have got up to his succour, that something may be done worthy of observation.—

I wish it were in my power still further to encrease the numbers of the Right Division, either by forwarding the 6th or 82nd Regiment to the Frontier.—But I feel afraid the Commissariat could not supply them.—So much alarmed am I, even with regard to their present numbers, that I have directed all the Women, and Children, of the Troops, to be sent down from Niagara, Burlington, and York, and the families of the Indians to be placed on Half Allowance.—

The Charwell, Brig, sailed from hence yesterday Evening for the Head of the Lake, with Provisions, and some Ammunition.—I am in very strong hopes, she will arrive safe at her destination. For Mr. McKenzie, an intelligent Master of the Squadron, has returned this morning, from reconnoitring the Enemy in Sackett's Harbour ; where their whole Squadron

was lying, with all their Sails bent, and apparently ready for Sea, but the Mohawk; on board of which from her Fore Mast forward no Guns could be perceived: and as she appeared to be very much by the Stern, it is imagined she cannot be completely armed yet.—

I have urged Deputy Commissary General Couche to forward supplies to the Head of the Lake so much, that it will be necessary to push on the next Brigades of Batteaux which arrive from below.—This may answer for the present; but, with the decided Naval Superiority of the Enemy, it will be a most extraordinary circumstance, if they will permit our communication by water to proceed unmolested.

I am concerned to observe, that none of the Engineer Officers (so much wanting in this Province!) have as yet made their appearance thus far.—

I hope to be at Burlington in the course of a few days.—

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your Excellency's
most obedient,
humble servant,
GORDON DRUMMOND
L[t] General

Archives, C. 388, p. 146.

Enclosure. From Riall at Fort George to Drummond at Kingston.

(Copy)

Fort George July 12[th] 1814

Sir/

The Enemy still occupy the same position as they did when I sent off my last communication & are I imagine waiting for their Fleet to furnish them with heavy Ordnance for their operations against our Forts—I have acquired from the Officers of Artillery, & Engineers their opinion upon the

state of their defences & means of resistance Copy of which I have the honor to enclose. If the judgment of those Officers be correct the fall of those places must be inevitable if vigorously attacked unless the Besiegers are interrupted in their operations or a diversion be made to withdraw their attention elsewhere. After mature deliberation I have determined upon the following plan of operation which I hope you will approve.

Having left in Forts George, Missasaga & Niagara such Garrisons as the Officers of the Engineers shall conceive necessary for their actual defence I shall move from this towards Burlington with between 8 & 900 Men I have directed Col: Scott to meet me at the 40 with the 103rd Regt the Militia collected at Burlington, of whom I understand there is a considerable body, & the whole of the Indians that can be assembled & with this force get into the Enemy's rear by the short Hills & Lundy's lane. I have also directed Lt Colr Battersby to move from York with the Glengary Regiment as I conceive the protection of that place at this moment a very secondary consideration & not likely to be attacked as the Enemy's whole attention seems to be engaged with the Attack of our Forts. If, as I make no doubt is the case, you are forwarding reinforcements to this Quarter part of them may be left at York to replace the Glengary Regiment, but I am decidedly of opinion every means should be taken to create such a force here as would make the discomfiture & annihilation of the Enemy beyond a doubt, nothing should be left to chance if possible.—

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your Most Obedt Servt
(Signed) P. Riall
M. General

Archives, C. 388, p. 148.

QUESTIONS PROPOSED TO THE OFFICERS OF ARTILLERY & ENGINEERS

Question 1.

What is the present State of Fort George as regards its Works & means of Defence.

Answer 1.

Fort George is in a very bad State with regard to its Works & consequently with regard to its means of Defence.

Question 2.

How long is Fort George—capable of making resistance against an Army computed by General Report & the most accurate information that can be obtained between 5 & 6000 Men Aided as it probably will be by the Cooperation of a powerful Fleet.

Answer 2.

With reference to the Answer to the first Question, Fort George is capable of making little or no resistance against an Army as stated in the Question if provided with a due proportion of heavy Artillery, and the only thing to prevent its being taken by Assault is a bad row of Pickets.

(Signed) J. Mackonochie
Capt Royal Artʸ.

Capt. Mackonochie gave his opinion on the two first Questions only, not having sufficient information on the other points

Question 3.

In the event of the fall of Fort George what resistance is Fort Niagara capable of making against an attack from thence & from other Positions which the fall of that place would lay open to the Enemy both on his side the River & our own.

Answer 3.

If Fort George falls into the hands of the Enemy, he will be enabled to carry on a regular Attack against Fort Niagara on his own side the River which otherwise he will find it very difficult to do.—As long as Fort George remains in our possession, it will be out of the power of the Enemy to annoy Fort Niagara from our own side of the river, but the fall of Fort George will enable the Enemy to erect Batteries on our side of the River which tho' they may considerably Annoy Fort Niagara would be some time before they could oblige it to Surrender.

Question 4.

In the event of the fall of Forts George and Niagara, what resistance is Fort Mississaga capable of making attacked as it probably would be by Sea & Land.

Answer 4.

Forts George & Niagara having fallen into the hands of the Enemy, Mississaga will be very much weakened, as all our Supplies without that Fort will be entirely cut off— There is no secure Cover for the Garrison shut up in Mississaga & as they would be prevented from going out of the Fort it would soon fall if attacked only from the Land and its resistance would of course be considerably diminished by the Co-operation of an Enemy's fleet.

Question 5.

In the event of the fall of Fort George, Niagara still being ours, what resistance is Fort Mississaga capable of, attacked as it would be by Sea & Land.

Answer 5.

The fall of Fort George would not effect the fall of Fort Mississaga, except as it leads to the fall of Fort Niagara—which in the former instance has been shewn to be the protection of our Supplies without Fort Mississaga.

Question 6.

What is the state of Fort Mississaga, as regards its Works & means of Defence.

Answer 6.

Fort Mississaga is in such a State as not to be easily taken by Assault, but its interior is so open that the Garrison will be incapable of holding out long after the Enemy may be enabled to commence a Bombardment against it—

These Answers have been given under the idea that the force of the Enemy is between 5 or 6000 Men with a due proportion of *heavy* Artillery *on which everything must depend,* and that their Troops are far superior to every thing they have ever brought into the Country during the present War.

(Signed) Jas. Maclachlan
Capt^{n} Royal Art^{y}.
J [*sic*] Yule
L^{t} Royal Eng^{rs}.
Geo. Phillpot
L^{t} Royal Eng^{rs}.

Question 7.

Have all the means we have had in our power been employed since the commencement of the Season in placing—those different Works in the best state of defence possible.

Answer 7.

The other Officers who have signed the preceding Question having refused to give an opinion on this subject in consequence of their not having been on the Spot until the last Week—

I have to state it as my Opinion that every means which have fallen within my Observation have been employed in putting the Works in the best state of defence possible—

(Signed)
Geo. Phillpott
L[t] Royal Eng[rs].

Archives, C. 684, p. 131.

From Riall at 20 Mile Creek to Drummond at ——.

20 Mile Creek 16 July 1814.

Sir

I have the honor to enclose you a report received from L[t] Col[l] Tucker left in command of the Forts on the Frontier, & I hope the activity shown by that Officer & the Spirit evinced by the troops will meet your approbation.—

I propose tomorrow to take up a more advanced Position at the 12 Mile Creek, for the purpose of favoring some Parties of Militia & Indians who will be pushed forward with a view to gain information of the enemys movements & prevent his receiving supplies from the country.—

From the report of Deserters & some Prisoners who have been made; I learn that since my last communication the Enemy has been reinforced by 700 Men who were crossed over at Lewiston.—

(Signed) P. Riall
M. General.

A return of the Troops & Militia is forwarded by this Express to the Dep: Adj: Gen:

NARRATIVE DOCUMENTS

GROUP X (*continued*)

OPERATIONS ON THE FRONTIERS, 1814

Niagara Frontier: 8. Americans burn St. David's, July 19, 1814.

Archives, C. 684, p. 179.

From Riall at 12-Mile Creek to Drummond at ——.

12 Mile Creek
July 19th 1814

Sir

Since I had the honor of writing to you on the 17th. nothing of an important nature has occurrd, the troops at present occupy the position of the 12 Mile Creek, having in advance at the 10 & to the Right extending to DeCoos & Streets Mills the 1st 2d 4th & 5th Regt. Lincoln Militia & a body of Indians, the main body of whom is with the advance of the Troops at the 12—There was a good deal of skirmishing yesterday with the advance of the Militia & the Enemys outposts near St Davids & they have in consequence burned that Village & several of the neighbouring houses, they have also I understand burned the whole of the Houses between Queenston & the Falls, the Second Brigade of Militia under Lt. Coll. Hamilton is at the 40 Mile Creek, I am happy to be able to inform you that almost the whole body of Militia is in Arms & seem actuated with the most determined Spirit of Hostility to the Enemy; the Indians also are in great numbers not less I believe than 900 & evince

the same spirit.—It is very much to be regretted that it cannot be taken advantage of at the moment—Every thing goes on well at Fort George—

(Signed) P. Riall
M. Gen[l].

NARRATIVE DOCUMENTS

GROUP X (*continued*)

OPERATIONS ON THE FRONTIERS, 1814

Niagara Frontier: 9. Lundy's Lane, July 25, 1814

Archives, C. 684, p. 182.

From Riall at 12 Mile Creek to Drummond at ——.

July 20[th] 1814
½ past 10 p.m.

Sir

Since I wrote you this even[g] I have received a letter from L[t] Col. Tucker, informing me that he has been enabled to ascertain the position of the enemy between Macfarlanes & Wilsons where he is in very great force—

L[t] Col. Tucker apprehends a very serious attack, will be made upon him probably this night, he believes the enemy is throwing up a work on the rising ground in front of Wilsons, as his advanced Sentries think they hear people at work & the noise of plank being thrown on the ground from waggons, I am really in a very unpleasant predicament, It will be expected that I should do something to relieve Fort George which I certainly have every inclination to do, but if I advance from this I leave the Country in my rear

perfectly exposed to the enemys advance from Queenston, or if I move in that direction & from thence to fort George the Enemy may if he pleases detach a part of his force by the cross roads & effect the object of getting into my rear & to Burlington,—If besides I should advance & any reverse happen, I look upon it as fraught with the greatest danger to the Province.—

I am most anxious for your arrival & I entreat you will direct the 89th to be pushed forward with all despatch & also the Flank Companies of the 104th whom Col. Morrison detained at York.—If Fort George should be seriously attacked I fear from the report of the Officers of Engineers & Artillery that I sent you, it will not be capable of much resistance, Lt Colr Tucker had four men wounded in a Skirmish with one of the Enemy's picquets one of whom has lost his leg

(Signed) P. Riall
M. General

Archives, C. 684, p. 177.

From Riall at 12 Mile Creek to Drummond at ——.

12 Mile Creek 12 [*recte* 21] July, 1814.

Sir

I have received no report from Lt Colr Tucker since last night, the enemy has concentrated his whole Force, with the exception of about 300 Men who have crossed the River to Lewiston, between De Puisayes & Macfarlanes he is certainly erecting Batteries against Fort George a little in advance of Wilson's house

A deserter brought in this day says he thinks they will be completed tomorrow, The Ordnance which he has with him consists of four eighteens, an eleven Inch Mortar, two heavy howitzers & several smaller pieces, The Deserter

who gave this account belong'd to the Artillery & I believe it to be correct, all the Deserters who come in agree pretty nearly in the computation of their numbers, A man who came over here upon some business with one of the American Officers was made prisoner this evening by a party of our Militia, he says they are in hourly expectation of the arrival of their Fleet with a large reinforcement of Troops It is very much to be lamented that we have not sufficient force to attack them before its arrival, our Militia occupy Queenston & St David, this evenᵍ in the former place they made three prisoners I have just got a report from the Offʳ Comᵍ at Burlington to say that he has received information that a party of the enemy consisting of about 200 Infantry & 80 Horsemen have been at Port Talbot where they have done a great deal of Injury to the Crops in that Settlement & that they threaten to advance into the Country for a similar purpose.

Lᵗ Col. Hamilton has sent the Oxford Regᵗ of Militia & some Indians in that direction from the 40 Mile Creek,— I have the honor to enclose you herewith a Return of the Offˢ & Troops composing the Garrisons of the several Forts, as called for by the Dʸ Adjutant Genˡˢ letter of the 16th received this day—

Capⁿ Jervois arrived here this morning.—

(Signed) P. Riall
M. General

Archives, C. 684, p. 173.

From Drummond at York to Prevost at ——.

Head Quarters
York, 23ᵈ July 1814—

Sir/

On my arrival late last Evening at this Post, I was honored with Your Excellency's Despatch of the 15th inst, acquainting

me that the Leopard, with the Left Wing of the 4th Battn of the Royals, has been wrecked on the Island of Anticosti. It is at the same time most consoling to learn that the Troops and Crew are saved.

I have recommended Sir James Yeo, in consequence of the necessity he is under of invaliding a number of his Seamen, to apply for the Crew of the Leopard. The Two Brigs the Star and Charwell got up in safety to this place with their cargoes, which has in a great measure assisted us in our straightened circumstances as regards Provisions, tho' even this additional Supply is by no means adequate to the necessary consumption. Two Brigades of Batteaux are on their way up loaded with Provisions, which if they arrive in safety will still farther relieve us, tho' even then our Supply will be very far from sufficient. I have therefore been under the necessity of ordering all the Women belonging to the Right Division, (beyond 3a Compy.) to go down to the Lower Province, with a view of decreasing as much as possible the issues. The sedentary Militia have been for some time called out for service at this Post, but I find it absolutely impracticable to keep them any longer, as the whole produce of the neighbouring country is in the greatest danger of being lost. I enclose an application made to me on this head, which will clearly shew Your Excellency the urgency of the case.

I am very glad to find that Major General Conran, and several Officers of the Royal Scots are on the way up, as their Services are particularly required.

The effective part of the 89th Regt, Your Excellency will perceive, by the enclosed Copies of Letters to Major General Riall and Lieut: Col: Tucker, will in consequence of arrangements I have found it necessary to make, be sent across this Evening to Fort Niagara, in the Brigs Star and Charwell, and to morrow I shall likewise cross in one of the Schooners, which are expected in to night, for the purpose of carrying into operation whatever can possibly be effected against

the Enemy. As soon as the Troops moving on Kingston arrive at that place I propose ordering up the 82nd Regt, which I beg leave to observe to Your Excellency, will leave that important Post in a state requiring to be still farther strengthened.

I am fully persuaded that Your Excellency will afford me every assistance in the very great difficulties I have to encounter, and I cannot but remark that it will require every exertion to enable me to overcome them.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your Excellency's
most obedient
humble Servant
GORDON DRUMMOND
Lt General

P.S./

Since closing the above Lt Radcliff of the Magnet has come over from Niagara, which he left early this morning. He brings information that the Enemy have retired from their position at McFarlane's and reoccupied Queenston Heights.

G. D.

Archives, C. 684, p. 202.

From Drummond at York to Prevost at ——.

York 24th July 1814.

Sir/

I have the honor to transmit the enclosed Representation relative to the necessity of the Sedentry Militia being permitted to return home to save their produce from being totally lost to the country. It was this Paper to which my Letter of yesterday referred, and which was to have accompanied it, but by mistake it was omitted to be enclosed.

Since my Letter of yesterday I have received from Major General Riall the enclosed report of the Enemys having withdrawn from his position before Fort George, and again fallen back upon Queenston.

I am on the eve of embarking for Niagara, tho' the wind is not so favorable as could be wished.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your Excellency's
most obedient
and most humble servant
GORDON DRUMMOND
Lt General

Archives, C. 684, p. 235.

From Drummond near Niagara Falls to Prevost at ——.

Head Quarters, Upper Canada
near Niagara Falls, 27th July
1814.

Sir,

I embarked on board H.M. Schooner Netley at York on Sunday evening the 24th Instant, and reached Niagara at Day break the following morning—Finding from Lieut Colonel Tucker that Major General Riall was understood to be moving towards the Falls of Niagara to support the advance of his division, which he had pushed on to that place on the preceeding evening, I ordered Lieut Colonel Morrison with the 89th Regt and a Detachment of the Royals and Kings, drawn from Fort George & Messissaga to proceed to the same point, in order that with the united force, I might act against the Enemy (posted at Streets Creek, with his advance at Chippawa) on my arrival, if it should be found expedient.

I ordered Lieu[t] Colonel Tucker, at the same time to proceed up the *Right* Bank of the River with 300 of the 41[st] and about 200 of the Royal Scots and a Body of Indian Warriors, supported, (on the River) by a party of armed Seamen, under Captain Dobbs, R. Navy. The object of this movement was to disperse or capture a body of the Enemy which was encamped at Lewiston ; some unavoidable delay having occurred in the march of the Troops, up the right bank, the Enemy had moved off, previous to L[t] Colonel Tucker's arrival—I enclose the report of that officer, & have to express myself satisfied with his exertions—

Having refreshed the Troops at Queenston and having brought across the 41[st] Royals and Indians, I sent back the 41[st] and 100[th] Reg[ts] to form the Garrisons of the Forts George, Mississaga and Niagara, under Lieu[t] Colonel Tucker, and moved with the 89[th] Reg[t] and Detachments of the Royals and King's, and Light Company of the 41[st] in all about 800 men, to join Major General Riall's Division at the Falls—

When arrived within a few miles of that position, I met a report from M. Gen[l] Riall that the Enemy was advancing in great Force—I immediately pushed on, and joined the Head of L[t] Col. Morrison's Column, just as it reached the road leading towards the Beaver Dam, over the summit of the Hill, at Lundy's Lane—Instead of the whole of M. General Riall's Division which I expected to have found, occupying this position I found it almost in the occupation of the Enemy, whose Columns were within 600 yards of the top of the hill, and the surrounding woods filled with his Light Troops, the advance of M. Gen[l]. Riall's Division, consisting of the Glengarry Light Infantry and Incorporated Militia having commenced their retreat upon Fort George.

I countermarched these Corps, and formed the 89[th] Reg[t] and the Royal Scots Detachments, and 41[st] Light Companies in the rear of the Hill, their Left resting on the great road—

my two 24 pounder Brass Field Guns, a little advanced in front of the centre, on the summit of the Hill—the Glengary L^t^ Infantry on the right, the Batt^n^ of Incorporated Militia and the Detachm^t^ of the King's Reg^t^ on the left of the great road—the Squadron 19^th^ L^t^ Dragoons in rear of the left on the road—I had scarce compleated this formation, when the whole front was warmly and closely engaged the Enemy's principal efforts were directed against our left and centre. After repeated attacks, the Troops on the left were partially forced back, and the Enemy gained a momentary possession of the road—This gave him, however, no material advantage, as the Troops which had been forced back, formed in rear of The 89^th^ Reg^t^., fronting the road, and securing that Flank. It was during this short interval that M. Gen^l^ Riall, having rec^d^. a severe wound, was intercepted, as he was passing to the rear, by a party of the Enemy's Cavalry, and made prisoner.

In the Centre, the repeated and determined Attacks of the Enemy were met by the 89^th^ Reg^t^, the Detachments of the Royals and King's, and the Light Company 41^st^ Reg^t^. with the most perfect steadiness and intrepid gallantry, and the Enemy was constantly repulsed with very heavy loss—- Of so determined a Character were their attacks directed against our Guns, that our Artillery Men were bayonetted by the Enemy in the Act of loading, and the muzzles of the Enemy's Guns were advanced within a few Yards of ours— The darkness of the night during this extraordinary conflict, occasioned several uncommon Incidents—Our Troops having for a moment been pushed back, some of our Guns for a few minutes remained in the Enemy's hands. They were, however, not only quickly recovered, but the two pieces, a Six Pounder, and a 5½ Inch Howitzer which the Enemy had brought up were captured by us, together with several Tumbrils ; and in limbering up our Guns at one period, one of the Enemy's Six Pounders was put, by mistake upon a

limber of ours, and one of our six limbered on one of his, by which means the pieces were exchanged, and thus, though we captured two of his Guns, yet, as he obtained one of ours, we have gained only *one* Gun—

About 9 O'Clock, (the Action having commenced at 6) there was a short intermission of firing, during which it appears the enemy was employed in bringing up the whole of his remaining force, and he shortly afterwards renewed his attacks with fresh Troops, but was everywhere met with equal gallantry and success—

About this period, the remainder of M. General Riall's Division, which had been ordered to retire on the advance of the Enemy, consisting of the 103 Reg^{t} under Colonel Scott, the Head Quarter Division of the Royal Scotts, the Head Q^{r} Division of the 8th or King's ; flank Comp^{ys} 104th, some Detachments of Militia, under L^{t} Col. Hamilton, I.F.O. joined the Troops engaged, and I placed them in a second line, with the exception of the R. Scots and Flank Comp^{ys} 104th, with which I prolonged my front line on the right, where I was apprehensive of the Enemy's out flanking me.— The Enemy's efforts to carry the Hill were continued until about midnight, when he had suffered so severely from the superior steadiness and discipline of His Majesty's Troops that he gave up the contest and retreated with great precipitation to his Camp beyond the Chippawa.—On the following day he abandoned his Camp, threw the greatest part of his Baggage, Camp Equipage and Provisions into the rapids, and having set fire to Streets Mills, and destroyed the Bridge at Chippawa, continued his retreat in great disorder, towards Fort Erie.—

My Light Troop, Cavalry and Indians are detached in pursuit and to harass his retreat, which I doubt not he will continue until he reaches his own Shores.—

The loss sustained by the Enemy in this severe action cannot be estimated at less than 1500 Men, including several

hundreds of Prisoners left in our hands.—His two Commanding Generals Browne and Scott are said to be wounded—His whole force, which has never been rated at less than five thousand having been engaged—

Enclosed I have the honor to transmit a return of our loss, which has been very considerable—The number of Troops under my command did not, for the first three hours, exceed 1600 Men ; the addition of the Troops under Colonel Scott did not encrease it to more than 2800 of every discription—

A very difficult, but at the same time a most gratifying duty remains, that of endeavouring to do justice to the Merits of the Officers and Soldiers by whose valour and discipline this important success has been obtained—I was very early in the action deprived of the services of M. General Riall, who, I regret to learn has suffered the amputation of his Arm in the Enemys possession his Bravery, Zeal and activity have always been conspicuous—To L^{t} Colonel Harvey Dep^{y} Adjutant General I am so deeply indebted for his valuable assistance previous to, as well as his able and energetic exertions during this severe contest, that I feel myself called upon to point Your Excellency's attention to the distinguished merits of this highly deserving officer, whose services have been particularly conspicuous in every affair that has taken place, since his arrival in this province—The zeal and intelligence displayed by Major Glegg, Ass^{t} Adj^{t} General deserve my warmest approbation—I much regret the loss of a very intelligent and promising young Officer, Lieu^{t} Moorsom, 104th Regt., Dep^{y} Ass^{t} Adj^{t} General, who was killed towards the close of the action—The active exertions of Cap^{t} Eliot Dep^{y} Ass^{t} Q^{r} Master Gen^{l} of whose gallantry and conduct I had occasion, on two former instances, to remark, were conspicuous —Major Maule and Lieu^{t} Le Breton of the Quarter M^{r} Gen$^{l's}$ department were extremely useful to me,—the latter was severely wounded—

Amongst the Officers from whose active exertions I derived the greatest assistance, I cannot omit to mention my Aides-de-Camp, Captains Jervois and Loring, and Captain Holland Aide de Camp to M Gen[l] Riall; Cap[t] Loring was unfortunately taken Prisoner by some of the Enemy's Dragoons whilst in the execution of an order—

In reviewing the action from its commencement, the first object which presents itself as deserving of notice is the steadiness and good countenance of the Squadron of the 19[th] Light Dragoons under Major Lisle, and the very creditable and excellent defence made by the Incorporated Militia Batt[n] under L[t] Colonel Robinson who was dangerously wounded—and a Detachment of the 8[th] (King's) Reg[t] under Captain Campbell. Major Kirby succeeded L[t] Colonel Robinson in the Command of the Incorp[d] Militia Batt[n] and continued very gallantly to direct its efforts. This Batt[n] has only been organized a few months, and much to the credit of Cap[t] Robinson of the King's Regiment (Provincial L[t] Colonel) has attained a highly respectable degree of discipline—

In the reiterated and determined attacks which the Enemy made on our centre for the purpose of gaining at once the crest of the Position, and our Guns, the steadiness and intrepedity displayed by the Troops allotted for the defence of that post, were never surpassed—they consisted of the 2[nd] Batt[n] 89[th] Reg[t] commanded by Lieu[t] Colonel Morrison, and after the L[t] Col. had been obliged to retire from the field by a severe wound, by Major Clifford, a Detachment of the Royal Scots under Lieu[t] Hemphill and after he was killed, Lieu[t] Fraser; Detachment of 8[th] or King's, under Captain Campbell, Light Company 41[st] Reg[t] under Cap[t] Glew, with some detachments of Militia under Lieu[t] Colonel Parry 103[rd] Reg[t]. These Troops, repeatedly, when hard pressed, formed round the Colours of the 89[th] Reg[t], and invariably repulsed the desperate efforts made against them.—On the right the

steadiness and good countenance of the 1st Battn Royal Scots under Lieut Colonel Gordon, in some very trying moments, excited my admiration.—The King's Regiment (1st Battn) under Major Evans, behaved with equal gallantry and firmness, as did the Light Company of the Royals, detached, under Capt Stewart, the Grenadier of the 103, detached, under Capt Browne, and the Flank Companies of the 104th under Captain Leonard—The Glengary Light Infantry Fencibles displayed most valuable qualities as Light Troops. Colonel Scott, Major Smelt, and the officers of the 103rd deserve credit for their exertions in rallying that regiment after it had been thrown into momentary disorder. Lieut Colonel Pearson, Inspg Field officer, directed the advance with great intelligence, and Lieut Colonel Drummond of the 104th having gone forward with my permission, early in the day ; made himself actively useful in different parts of the field, under my direction—These officers are entitled to my best thanks, as is Lieut Colonel Hamilton, Inspg. Field officer, for his exertions after his arrival with the Troops under Colonel Scott. The Field Artillery, so long as there was light was well served. The credit of its efficient state is due to Captain Mackonachie, who has had charge of it, since his arrival with this Division—Capt McLoughlin who has charge of the Batteries of Fort Messissaga volunteered his services in the field on this occasion ; he was severely wounded—Lieut Tomkins deserves much credit for the way in which the two Brass 24 prs of which he had charge, were served, as does Serjeant Austin of the Rocket Company, who directed the Congreve Rockets which did much execution.—

The zeal, loyalty and bravery with which the Militia of this part of the Province have come forward to cooperate with His Majesty's Troops in the expulsion of the Enemy, and their conspicuous gallantry, in this, and in the Action of the 5th Instant, claim my warmest thanks—

I cannot conclude this despatch without recommending

in the strongest terms, the following officers, whose conduct throughout the late operations has called for my marked approbation and I am induced to hope that Your Excellency will be pleased to submit their names for promotion to the most favourable consideration of His Royal Highness, The Prince Regent, viz. Captain Jervois, my Aide-de-Camp, Cap[t] Robinson, King's Reg[t] (Provincial Lieu[t] Colonel) Comm[g] the Incorporated Militia—Captain Eliot, Dep[y] Ass[t] Q[r] Master General, Cap[t] Holland, Aide-de-Camp to Major Gen[l] Riall, and Captain Glew 41[st] Regt.—

This despatch will be delivered to you by Captain Jervois, my Aide-de-Camp, who is fully competent to give Your Excellency every further information you may require.—

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Excellency's
most obed[t]
Humble Servant,
GORDON DRUMMOND
L[t] General

Archives, C. 688 E, p. 150.

Adjutant General's Office,
Head Quarters Montreal, 4[th] August, 1814.

GENERAL ORDER.

The COMMANDER of the FORCES has the highest satisfaction in promulgating to the Troops, the DISTRICT GENERAL ORDER, issued by Lieutenant General DRUMMOND, after the action which took place on the 25th of last month, near the Falls of Niagara. His Excellency is desirous of adding to the meed of Praise so deservedly bestowed by the Lieut-General on the troops, regulars, and militia, who had the good fortune to share in this brilliant achievement, the deep sense he

entertains of their services, and of the distinguished skill, and energetic exertions of Lieutenant General Drummond in the measures which have terminated in repelling the Invaders from His Majesty's territories.

The Commander of the Forces unites with Lieut. General Drummond, in sincerely lamenting the great loss which the service has sustained by the severe wound received by Major General RIALL, and his subsequent untoward capture. It will be a most pleasing part of the duty of the Commander of the Forces to bring the meritorious services of the Right Division of the army of the Canadas before the gracious consideration of His Royal Highness the Prince Regent.

(Signed) EDWARD BAYNES,
Adjutant General, N. A.

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Head Quarters, Falls of Niagara,
26th July, 1814.

DISTRICT GENERAL ORDER,

Lieutenant-General DRUMMOND offers his sincerest and warmest thanks to the Troops and Militia engaged yesterday, for their examplary steadiness, gallantry and discipline in repulsing all the efforts of a numerous and determined Enemy to carry the position of Lundy's Lane, near the Falls of Niagara ; their exertions have been crowned with complete success, by the defeat of the Enemy and his retreat to the position of Chippawa, with the loss of two of his guns and an immense number of Killed and Wounded, and several hundred Prisoners. When all have behaved nobly, it is unnecessary to hold up particular instances of merit in Corps or Individuals. The Lieut. General cannot however refrain from expressing in the strongest manner his admiration of the gallantry and steadiness of the 89th Regiment, under Lieut. Colonel MORRISON, and Major CLIFFORD, who ably

and gallantly supplied the Lieut. Colonel's place after he was wounded; 41st Light Company under Captain Glew, and detachment of the 8th, or King's Regiment, under Captain Campbell; and Royals acting with them, also a party of Incorporated Militia, by whom the Brunt of the Action was for a considerable time sustained, and whose loss has been severe. To the advance under Lieutenant Colonel Pearson, consisting of the Glengary Light Infantry, under Lieut. Colonel Battersby; a small party of the 104th under Lieut. Colonel Drummond; the Incorporated Militia under Lieut. Colonel Robinson, and detachments from the 1st, 2d, 4th, and 5th, Lincoln Militia, and 2d, York, under Lieut. Colonel Pary 103d; the Lieut. General offers his warmest thanks. They are also due to the Troops which arrived under Colonel Scott during the action, viz. the 1st or Royal Scots, under Lieut. Colonel Gordon, 8th or King's, under Major Evans; 103d regiment under Colonel Scott, flank company 104th, with the Norfolk, Oxford, Kent and Essex Rangers, and Middlesex, under Lieut. Colonel Hamilton.

The admirable steadiness and good conduct of the 19th Light Dragoons under Major Lisle, and of the detachment of Royal Artillery under Captain Maclachlan, are entitled to particular praise; the latter officer having been badly wounded; the command of the Artillery devolved to Captain Mackonochie, with whose gallantry and exertions Lieut. General Drummond was highly pleased. Sergeant Austin, who directed the firing of the Congreve Rockets, deserves very great credit. To the Officers of the general and of his personal Staff, to Captain Holland Aid-de-Camp to Major-General Riall, Lieutenant-General Drummond feels himself greatly indebted for the assistance they afforded him.

He has to lament being deprived (by a wound early in the action) of the services of Major General Riall, who was most unfortunately made Prisoner, whilst returning from the Field, by a party of the enemy's Cavalry, who had a momentary

possession of the Road.—Lieut. General Drummond has also to regret the wounds which have deprived the corps of the services of Lieut. Colonel Morrison 89th Regiment, and Lieut. Colonel Robertson of the incorporated Militia. In the fall of Lieut. Moorsom of the 104th Regiment, serving as Deputy Asst. Adjutant General, the service has lost a gallant, intelligent, and meritorious young officer.

The Lieut. General and President has great pleasure in dismissing to their homes the whole of the Sedentary Militia who have so handsomely come forward on the occasion, confident that on any future emergency, their Loyalty, will be again equally conspicuous—He will perform a grateful duty in representing to His Majesty's Government, the zeal, bravery, and alacrity with which the Militia have co-operated with His Majesty's Troops.

(Signed) J. Harvey,
Lt. Col. & Deputy Adjt. General.

Names of Officers Killed, Wounded, and Missing.

OFFICERS KILLED.

General Staff—Lieut. Moorsom, 104th regt. Dep. Assist. Adjt. Gen.

1st, or Royal Scots—Lieut. Hemphill

89th Regt, 2d batt.—Capt. Spunner and Lieut. Latham.

Incorporated Militia—Ensign Campbell

OFFICERS WOUNDED.

General Staff—Lieut. Gen. Drummond, severely, not dangerously; Major Gen. Riall, do. and prisoner; Lieut. Col. Pearson, slightly; Lieut. LeBreton severely.

Royal Artillery—Capt. McLachlan, dangerously

1st, or Royal Scots—Capt. Brereton, slightly; Lieut. Haswell, severely, not dangerously; Lieut. D. Fraser, do. do. missing.

1st Batt. 8th, or King's—Lieut. Noel and Ensign Swayne, slightly; Ensign McDonald, severely.

89th Regt.—Lieut. Colonel Morrison, Lieutenants Sanderson, Steell, Pierce, Taylor, Lloyd, and Miles, severely, not dangerously; Lieut. Redmond, and Adjutant Hopper, slightly; Lieut. Grey and Ensign Sanders, dangerously.

103d Regt.—Lieut. Langhorne, slightly.

Glengary Lt. Infan.—Lieut. R. Kerr, do.

Incorporated Militia—Lieut. Col. Robinson, dangerously; Captain Fraser, severely; Captain Washburn, slightly; Captain McDonald, severely, left arm amputated; Lieut. MacDougall, mortally; Lieut. Ratan and Ensign McDonald, severely; Lieut. Hamilton, slightly.

2d Lincoln Militia—Adjutant Thompson, slightly.

4th do. do.—Captain H. Nellis and Ensign Kennedy, slightly.

5th do. do.—Major Hatt, severely.

2d York Militia—Major Simons, severely; Capt. McKay, slightly; Capt. Rockman, Lieuts. Orrfield and Smith, severely.

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OFFICERS MISSING.

Royal Engineers—Lieut. Yule

1st or Royal Scots—Lieuts. Clyne, and Lamont, supposed to be prisoners.

8th, or King's Regt.—Quarter Master Kirnan

4th Lincoln Militia—Captain H. Nellis and Quarter Master Bell

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OFFICERS PRISONERS.

General Staff—Captain Loring, Aid de Camp to Lieut Gen. Drummond

89th Regt.—Captain Gore

103d Regt.—Captain Brown; Lieut. Montgomery, and wounded; Ensign Lynai

Archives, Q 158–1, p. 132A. (*Transcript from the original in the Public Record Office, London.*)

Return of the Killed, Wounded, Missing and taken Prisoners of the Right Division of the Army in Upper Canada, under the Command of Lieut. General Drummond in Action with the Enemy near the Falls of Niagara 25th July 1814

| Corps. | Killed | | | | | | | | Wounded | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Missing | | | | | | | | | | Prisoners | | | | | | | | | | Horses | | | Remarks. |
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Glengary Light Infantry—Ensign Robin

Incorporated Militia—Captain McLean ; Ensign Wharf, and Quarter Master Thompson

Provincial Light Dragoons—Capt. Merritt

TOTAL—including Officers.

Killed	84
Wounded	559
Missing	193
Prisoners	42
General Total	878

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In consequence of the great use made by the enemy of Buck Shot, many of the wounds have proved slight.

(Signed) Edward Baynes,
Adjutant General

James

From Major General Brown to the American Secretary at War.

Sir, (No date.)

Confined as I was, and have been, since the last engagement with the enemy, I fear that the account I am about to give may be less full and satisfatory than under other circumstances it might have been made. I particularly fear that the conduct of the gallant men it was my good fortune to lead will not be noticed in a way due to their fame, and the honor of our country.

You are already apprised, that the army had, on the 25th ult. taken a position at Chippeway. About noon of that day, colonel Swift, who was posted at Lewiston, advised me, by express, that the enemy appeared in considerable force in

Queenstown, and on its heights ; that four of the enemy's fleet had arrived on the preceding night, and were then lying near Fort Niagara ; and that a number of boats were in view, moving up the streight. Within a few minutes after this intelligence had been received, I was further informed by captain Denmon, of the quarter-master's department, that the enemy were landing at Lewistown, and that our baggage and stores at Schlosser, and on their way thither, were in danger of immediate capture.

It is proper here to mention, that having received advices as late as the 20th, from general Gaines, that our fleet was then in port, and the commodore sick, we ceased to look for co-operation from that quarter, and determined to disencumber ourselves of baggage, and march directly to Burlington Heights. To mask this intention, and to draw from Schlosser a small supply of provisions, I fell back upon Chippeway. As this arrangement, under the encreased force of the enemy, left much at hazard on our side of the Niagara, and as it appeared by the before stated information, that the enemy was about to avail himself of it, I conceived that the most effectual method of recalling him from this object was to put myself in motion towards Queenstown. General Scott, with the 1st brigade, Towson's artillery, and all the dragoons and mounted men, were accordingly put in march on the road leading thither, with orders to report if the enemy appeared, and to call for assistance, if that was necessary.

On the general's arrival at the falls, he learned that the enemy was in force directly in his front, a narrow piece of wood alone intercepting his view of them. Waiting only to give this information, he advanced upon them. By the time assistant-adjutant-general Jones had delivered this message, the action began, and before the remaining part of the division had crossed the Chippeway, it had become close and general between the advanced corps. Though general Ripley with the 2d brigade, major Hindman with the corps of artillery,

and general Porter, at the head of his command, had respectively pressed forward with ardor, it was not less than an hour before they were brought to sustain general Scott, during which time his command most skilfully and gallantly maintained the conflict. Upon my arrival I found that the general had passed the wood, and engaged the enemy on the Queenstown road, and on the ground to the left of it, with the 9th, 11th, and 22d regiments, and Towson's artillery.

The 25th had been thrown to the right, to be governed by circumstances. Apprehending that these corps were much exhausted, and knowing that they had suffered severely, I determined to interpose a new line with the advancing troops, and thus disengage general Scott, and hold his brigade in reserve. Orders were accordingly given to general Ripley. The enemy's artillery at this moment occupied a hill which gave him great advantages, and was the key of the whole position. It was supported by a line of infantry. To secure the victory, it was necessary to carry this artillery, and seize the height. This duty was assigned to colonel Miller, while, to favor its execution, the 1st regiment, under the command of colonel Nicholas, was directed to menace and amuse the infantry. To my great mortification, this regiment, after a discharge or two, gave way, and retreated some distance before it could be rallied, though it is believed the officers of the regiment exerted themselves to shorten the distance.

In the mean time, colonel Miller, without regard to this occurrence, advanced steadily and gallantly to his object, and carried the height and the cannon. General Ripley brought up the 23rd (which had also faultered) to his support, and the enemy disappeared from before them. The 1st regiment was now brought into a line on the left of the 21st, and the detachments of the 17th and 19th, general Porter occupying, with his command, the extreme left. About this time colonel Miller carried the enemy's cannon.

The 25th regiment, under major Jessup, was engaged in a

most obstinate conflict with all that remained to dispute with us the field of battle. The major, as has been already stated, had been ordered by general Scott, at the commencement of the action, to take ground to his right. He had succeeded in turning the enemy's left flank,—had captured (by a detachment under captain Ketchum) general Riall, and sundry other officers, and shewed himself again to his own army, in a blaze of fire, which defeated or destroyed a very superior force of the enemy. He was ordered to form on the right of the 2d regiment. The enemy rallying his forces, and, as is believed, having received reinforcements, now attempted to drive us from our position, and regain his artillery. Our line was unshaken, and the enemy repulsed. Two other attempts, having the same object, had the same issue. General Scott was again engaged in repelling the former of these ; and the last I saw of him on the field of battle, he was near the head of his column, and giving to its march a direction that would have placed him on the enemy's right. It was with great pleasure I saw the good order and intrepidity of general Porter's volunteers from the moment of their arrival, but during the last charge of the enemy those qualities were conspicuous.

Stimulated by the examples set them by their gallant leader, by major Wood, of the Pennsylvania corps, by colonel Dobbin, of New York, and by their officers generally, they precipitated themselves upon the enemy's line, and made all the prisoners which were taken at this point of the action.

Having been for some time wounded, and being a good deal exhausted by loss of blood, it became my wish to devolve the command on general Scott, and retire from the field ; but on inquiry I had the misfortune to learn, that he was disabled by wounds ; I therefore kept my post, and had the satisfaction to see the enemy's last effort repulsed. I now consigned the command to general Ripley.

While retiring from the field, I saw and felt that the victory was complete on our part, if proper measures were promptly adopted to secure it. The exhaustion of the men was, however, such as made some refreshment necessary. They particularly required water. I was myself extremely sensible of the want of this necessary article. I therefore believed it proper that general Ripley and the troops should return to camp, after bringing off the dead, the wounded, and the artillery ; and in this I saw no difficulty, as the enemy had entirely ceased to act. Within an hour after my arrival in camp, I was informed that general Ripley had returned without annoyance, and in good order. I now sent for him, and, after giving him my reasons for the measure I was about to adopt, ordered him to put the troops into the best possible condition ; to give them the necessary refreshment ; to take with him the piquets and camp guards, and every other description of force, to put himself on the field of battle as the day dawned, and there to meet and beat the enemy if he again appeared. To this order he made no objection, and I relied upon its execution. It was not executed. I feel most sensibly how inadequate are my powers in speaking of the troops, to do justice either to their merits or to my own sense of them. Under abler direction, they might have done more and better.

From the preceding detail, you have now evidence of the distinguished gallantry of generals Scott and Porter ; of colonel Miller and major Jessop.

Of the 1st brigade, the chief, with his aide de camp, Worth, his major of brigade, Smith, and every commander of battalion were wounded.

The 2d brigade suffered less ; but, as a brigade, their conduct entitled them to the applause of their country. After the enemy's strong position had been carried by the 21st and the detachments of the 17th and 19th, the 1st and 23d assumed a new character. They could not again be shaken

or dismayed. Major M'Farland, of the latter, fell nobly at the head of his battalion.

Under the command of general Porter, the militia volunteers of Pennsylvania and New York stood undismayed amidst the hottest fire, and repulsed the veterans opposed to them. The Canadian volunteers, commanded by colonel Wilcox, are reported by general Porter as having merited and received his approbation.

The corps of artillery, commanded by major Hindman, behaved with its usual gallantry. Captain Towson's company, attached to the 1st brigade, was the first and last engaged, and during the whole conflict maintained that high character which they had previously won by their skill and valor. Captains Biddle and Ritchie were both wounded early in the action, but refused to quit the field. The latter declared that he never would leave his piece ; and, true to his engagement, fell by its side, covered with wounds.

The staff of the army had its peculiar merit and distinction ; colonel Gardner, adjutant-general, though ill, was on horseback, and did all in his power ; his assistant, major Jones, was very active and useful. My gallant aides de camp, Austin and Spencer, had many and critical duties to perform, in the discharge of which the latter fell. I shall ever think of this young man with pride and regret ; regret that his career has been so short,—pride that it has been so noble and distinguished.

The engineers, majors Macrae and Wood, were greatly distinguished on this day, and their high military talents exerted with great effect ; they were much under my eye, and near my person, and to their assistance a great deal is fairly to be ascribed ; I must earnestly recommend them, as worthy of the highest trust and confidence. The staff of generals Ripley and Porter discovered great zeal and attention to duty. Lieutenant E. B. Randolph, of the 20th regiment, is entitled to notice ; his courage was conspicuous.

I enclose a return of our loss ; those noted as missing may generally be numbered with the dead. The enemy had but little opportunity of making prisoners.

I have the honor to be, sir, &c.

Hon. John Armstrong, secretary at war. JACOB BROWN.

James

Return of the Killed, Wounded, and missing, of the Division of the army under the command of Major-General Brown at the battle of Bridgewater, July 25th, 1814.

General staff;—1 major-general, 1 brigadier-general, 2 aides de camp, 1 brigade-major, wounded ; 1 brigade-major, missing.

Light dragoons ;—1 rank and file, killed ; 2 rank and file, wounded.

Artillery ;—1 captain, 9 rank and file, killed ; 1 captain, 2 subalterns, 1 serjeant, 1 musician, 30 rank and file, wounded ; 1 rank and file, missing.

1*st regiment infantry* ;—11 rank and file, killed ; 2 subalterns, 18 rank and file, wounded ; and 2 rank and file, missing.

9*th ditto* ;—1 captain, 2 subalterns, 1 serjeant, 12 rank and file, killed ; 1 major, 1 captain, 1 paymaster, 1 quartermaster, 5 subalterns, 7 serjeants, 74 rank and file, wounded ; one subaltern, 3 serjeants, 11 rank and file, missing.

11*th regiment* ;—1 captain, 2 serjeants, 25 rank and file, killed ; 1 major, 1 captain, 5 subalterns, 9 serjeants, 1 musician, 85 rank and file, wounded ; 1 subaltern, 2 rank and file, missing.

21*st regiment* ;—1 subaltern, 2 serjeants, 12 rank and file, killed ; 1 captain, 5 subalterns, 1 serjeant, 63 rank and file, wounded ; 19 rank and file, missing.

22*d regiment* ;—2 serjeants, 34 rank and file, killed ; 1 colonel, 2 captains, 4 subalterns, 9 serjeants, 1 musician, 73 rank and file, wounded ; 3 subalterns, 2 serjeants, 12 rank and file, missing.

23d regiment;—1 major, 2 serjeants, 7 rank and file, killed; 1 captain, 6 subalterns, 1 serjeant, 44 rank and file, wounded; 3 serjeants, 24 rank and file, missing.

25th regiment;—1 captain, 1 subaltern, 26 rank and file, killed; 1 major, 1 adjutant, 1 quarter-master, 1 subaltern, 6 serjeants, 56 rank and file, wounded; 1 serjeant, 14 rank and file, missing.

Canadian volunteers;—1 rank and file, killed; 2 rank and file, wounded; 8 rank and file, missing.

Pennsylvania regiment;—1 adjutant, 1 serjeant, 9 rank and file, killed; 1 major, 1 quarter-master, 1 subaltern, 21 rank and file, wounded; 1 captain, missing.

New York militia;—1 captain, 3 rank and file, killed; 1 lieutenant-colonel, 1 subaltern, 2 serjeants, 10 rank and file, wounded; 1 subaltern, missing.

Total—Killed, 1 major, 5 captains, 1 adjutant, 4 subalterns, 10 sergeants, 150 rank and file. Wounded, 1 major-general, 1 brigadier-general, 2 aides de camp, 1 brigade-major, 1 colonel, 1 lieutenant-colonel, 4 majors, 7 captains, 1 adjutant, 1 paymaster, 3 quarter-masters, 32 subalterns, 36 serjeants, 3 musicians, 478 rank and file. Missing, 1 brigade-major, 1 captain, 6 subalterns, 9 serjeants, 93 rank and file.

Archives, C. 1172, p. 70*a*.

General Orders.

Head Quarters
Quebec, 9 January 1815

His Excellency the Governor in Chief and Commander of the Forces, has great satisfaction in obeying the commands of His Royal Highness the Commander in Chief, in announcing the high approbation expressed by His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, of the promptitude and skill displayed by Lieut. General Drummond, in conducting to victory a Force so inadequate to that of the Enemy and of the distinguished

bravery and discipline evinced by the gallant troops under the Lieut. General's Command, in the unequal contest on the 25th July last ; near the Falls of Niagara ; and it is with much pleasure His Excellency publishes to the Army the following letter to the same effect, which he has received from The Right Honrable the Earl Bathurst, one of His Majesty's principal Secretaries of State :—

Downing Street, 7th October, 1814

Sir,

Major Jervoise delivered to me your Despatch of the 5th August, No. 183, containing Lieutenant General Drummond's detail of the distinguished conduct of the Division under his command, on the 25th July, near the Falls of Niagara, which were immediately laid before the Prince Regent.

His Royal Highness observed with great concern the severe loss sustained on this occasion, but in every other point of view the whole operation could not fail to excite the highest satisfaction from the display it afforded of skill and gallantry in the officers, and of valor and discipline in the Troops engaged in so unequal a contest, with an enemy conscious of his vast superiority in numbers, and thereby rendered confident and presuming.

His Royal Highness particularly noticed the conspicuous share borne by the Militia in this action, and commands me to signify through you to Lieutenant General Drummond, Major General Riall, and the rest of the Officers and Men both of the Regular and Provincial Corps under his Command, the sense His Royal Highness entertains of their meritorious and successful exertions to maintain the glory of His Majesty's Arms.

I have the honor to be, &c
(Signed) Bathurst.

Certified

(Signed) G. T. Burke,
Dy Asst. Adjt. Gen.

NARRATIVE DOCUMENTS

GROUP X (*continued*)

OPERATIONS ON THE FRONTIERS, 1814

NIAGARA FRONTIER: 10. FORT ERIE, August 15, 1814

Archives, C. 684, p. 249.

From Drummond at Niagara Falls to Prevost at ——.

Head Quarters,
Niagara Falls
31st July 1814

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellencys Letter (duplicate) of the 20th and of your private communication of the 23rd—the latter stating Your Excellency's view in sending Major Coore to my Head Quarters.

In reply to the latter, I beg briefly to state that in this quarter the great object at present is the defeat and expulsion of the Enemy's force which has taken Post at Fort Erie and to this object my sole attention must be given.—I am sanguine in hoping that with the force which I am collecting it will not be found difficult of attainment. I have in the meantime been under the necessity of considerably reducing the Garrisons of the Forts—Defended however by the 89th, and 100th Regts., 4 Cos of the 41st and 50 Marines, they are secure against a coup de main—moreover if the Enemy's Squadron should ever make its appearance, without a cooperating Army, and ignorant of the state of their Garrisons I much doubt whether any force which might be embarked on board it, would at once proceed to attack the Forts.—I shall of

course lose no time in reinforcing these Garrisons the moment my present object is accomplished and if I am fortunate in my operations at Fort Erie, this whole frontier may be considered as Secure, and I shall immediately direct my attention to *Burlington* and *York*.—With regard to Kingston I would beg permission most earnestly to recommend to Your Excellency * to concentrate a very large force at that Place not alone for the Protection of that most important Depôt, but to enable Your Excellency the moment the Squadron is ready to sail, to strike that Blow which can alone extinguish the War in this Province.

M. General Conran having joined this Division it will move forward towards the Enemy to-morrow.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Excellency's
most obedient
humble Servant,
GORDON DRUMMOND
L^t^ Gen^l^

[*Pencil note in margin.*] * Suggestion anticipated by the allotment of Major Gen^l^ Kemp's Brigade for this Service—

Archives, C. 685, p. 38.

From Drummond at Fort Erie to Prevost at ——.

Head Quarters—
Camp before Fort Erie,
4^th^ August 1814.

Sir,

I have the honor to acquaint Your Excellency that on Monday the 1^st^ I moved my Head Quarters to Palmers (half way betwixt Chippawa & Fort Erie) and on the following

Evening the Troops being closed up in the order directed in the acompanying Dist Gen[l] Order I took up a position on the Heights opposite to Black Rock, the Enemy retiring his Picquets on the Approach of our Advanced Guard.

Previous to the advance of the Brigades I gave the Instructions of which I enclose a Copy to M. General Conran for the crossing a Detachment of 600 Men to the right Bank of the River for the purpose of Capturing or destroying the Enemy's Depots at Buffalo and Black Rock ; had this Service been Effected as I sanguinely expected the Enemy's Force shut up in Fort Erie would have [been] compelled by want of Provisions, either to come out and fight the Division under my Command or to have surrendered to it.—I enclose L[t] Colonel Tucker's Report on which I do not think it necessary to offer
(1) any other observation than that the disembarkation was effected without the smallest opposition, the Force of the Enemy which was distinctly seen by me from the Heights on this side the River, did not exceed 150, or 200 Men, chiefly Militia and Indians. The officers I am happy to find appear
(2) to have done their duty.

The Enemy having been put on his Guard by this Movement made against Black Rock has in consequence encreased his Force at that place and Buffalo : Whatever further movement, therefore, I may be inclined to make on the right Bank must be made in considerable Force.

On the Afternoon of Yesterday I advanced the Light
(3) Brigade under Cover of the Woods as close as possible to the Fort and Position of which I obtained a very valuable reconnoissance—In addition to a Breastwork & Entrenchment by which the Fort has been connected with Snake Hill the Enemy has continued the N E. demi bastion of the Fort down to the Lake and mounted a considerable number of heavy Guns along the whole face—Snake Hill has also been fortified & armed with heavy Guns, & the Wood around the whole Position abbaticed. Three Armed Schooners are

anchored off the place so as to flank by their fire the Roads both from above & below.

On mature consideration therefore I have determined not to assault the Position until I have some impression by (4)
means of Guns of proper battering Calibre which I have sent for from Fort George. The fire of the long 24 P[r] (iron) which I brought up with the Troops & which was directed during the reconnoissance of yesterday against the Enemy's Schooners & the Fort convinced me that with the addition of those which I have ordered up, viz[t], a long 18 P[r], an 8 inch Mortar & a 24 P[r] Carronade—I shall be able to compel (5)
the Force shut up in Fort Erie to surrender or attempt a Sortie which can only terminate in his defeat. Should a favorable opportunity occur before my Batteries are Estab- (6)
lished of attacking the place in any other manner I shall avail myself of it.

I have this Morning detached an Officer of the Qua[r] Mast[r] Generals Department with a Party of Dragoons & a few Mounted Men of the Glengary Light Infantry by the Road leading upon Fort Erie by Birds and Tyce Hornes along the Lake Shore to make an accurate Reconnoissance of the Right of the Enemys Position. (7)

Should the Report be favorable to the Enterprize I may probably be induced to assault the Place at two Points after I am joined by the Right Wing of the Reg[t] de Watteville for which the Schooners have been sent to York & I am in hourly Expectation of hearing of their arrival.

Captain Dobbs. R.N. is with me with a Party of about 30 Seamen & has already been of very Essential Assistance to the Troops particularly in the enterprize against Black Rock Yesterday.

I have been duly honoured with Your Excellencys Letter of the 25[th] inst. The Force Recapitulated by Your Excellency as that of the Right & Centre Division has a very formidable appearance on Paper—I regret however to be obliged to

observe that the inefficient State & composition of many of the Regiments are such as to detract greatly from the confidence which their numbers might otherwise inspire—It is my intention to write when I have leisure more fully on this Subject & also as soon as circumstances will permit to send down to Kingston Several of the Corps at present on this Frontier & which are wholly unfit for Service in the Field.

(8) I transmit by this Opportunity a Letter which I had intended to have forwarded some days ago by Major Coore, But that Officer having informed me that he has Your Excellency's Confidential Instructions to remain here for some time I have acceeded to his wishes to be permitted to do so.

I have the Honor to be
Your Excellencys
most obedient
humble Servant
GORDON DRUMMOND
Lt General

[*Pencil notes in Margin*]

(1) A very painful circumstance

(2) At last tho' perhaps not in the first instance

(3) The Enemy's exertions since the action at Niagara have been very great.

(4) Commend measures calculated to obtain the end wished for without unnecessarily shedding blood.

(5) Vertical fire most likely to intimidate. Rocketts & Precautionary measures to replace from the depots at Kingston the small arm & Great Gun ammunition expended on the Niagara frontier

(6) Satisfied the L^{t} Gen^{l} will do all that is proper & prudent

(7) The return of Chauncey to S. H. on the 9th will favor the arrival of the 82^{d} & the 8th Reg^{ts}

(8) Whilst an important operation was pending Major C—— very properly availed himself of my instructions to remain with the R^{t} Div^{n}

Archives, C. 231, p. 128.

Enclosure

[Endorsement] D. General Order—Head Quarters.

Head Quarter Falls—1st August 1814

It being Lieut General Drummonds intention to move forward with the Troops, for the purpose of giving Battle to the Enemy should he be induced to venture out of his position, or to take up a position with the Division as Close as possible to that of the Enemy, for the purpose of effecting his defeat—Expulsion, or Capture—The following arrangements for this Movement are ordered—and Major General Conran to whom under the Superintendence of the Lieut Gen[l] the direction of the movement is confided will be pleased to give the Necessary Orders—

The Whole will close up to the advance at day light to morrow morning—when the Army will Stand in the following Order—

left in front—viz—
Reserve—Lieut Col Tucker—
and the Indians—
Light Field Battery of 3—6 P[rs]
and—5½ inch Howitzer
Rocket Detachment
2[nd] Brigade—Lieut Col Fischer
1[st] Brigade—Col. Scott
Park—consisting of 2 Brass—& 1 Iron—24 P[rs]
1—8 inch Howitzer—
and reserve Ammunition—
Squadron 19[th] Light Dragoons—
Light Baggage of the Army—

One day's Provisions to be always kept Cooked in advance

When the whole have closed up, and the Lieut Generals Orders are given to advance—

The leading Wing of the reserve under Lieut Colonel Pearson is to be ordered to move by the Skirts of the Wood directing its march upon Fort Erie in front of which place it will reunite with the head of the Column ;—

The Flank Battalion under Lieut Col Drummond, preceding and covering the advance of the Divisions, driving in the Enemy's Picquets, and in the event of his Army's coming out—engaging his Light Troops until the Brigades have been deployed and a formation completed—when the whole of the Reserve will gradually fall back, and Lieut Colonel Tucker will take a position for covering the right Flank of the Army with *all the Light Troops*—detaching the Grenadier Companies to strengthen the *Left of the Line*—

Should the front be narrow it may be sufficient to occupy it with one Brigade, the Field Battery in the Centre the 24 . . . P^rs brass Guns on the Road on the Left—the rear Brigade formed in columns of Battalions *in reserve* ; if the front will admit of it with bringing the Right of the Line too near the Wood, one Battalion of the rear Brigade may be ordered to prolong the front line, but in no case would the Lieutenant General approve of both Brigades being placed in one line, without, at least, one Battalion in reserve—The Iron 24 P^r and 8 inch Howitzer, being intended to act against the Enemy in his fortified position at Fort Erie must be kept in the rear with the *Cavalry*—To the latter it is very desirable, that an opportunity should be afforded of acting against that of the Enemy—

Coolness on the part of the Officers, Steadiness and regularity in the formation, movements and firings on the part of the Troops—Precision on the part of the Artillery—are the qualities which the Lieut General Confidently Expects to be displayed—

If attacked on the March the Lieut^t General Expects that the Troops will form without disorder to repel it—

The Regiments—particularly those not much accustomed

to Service—Must be cautioned against a profuse expenditure of their Ammunition ; and the Lieut General Expresses his earnest hope—that the Troops will not be led away (as was in some instances the case the other Evening) to join in a fire, begun without orders, and without even seeing their Enemy, by a few unsteady individuals.—

The following Extracts from an order issued on a former occasion, are ordered to be incorporated with the present Order and read to the Troops this Evening, and again to morrow morning, by Commanding Officers of Brigades and Corps—

" In reviewing the operation of this Army highly honorable as they have been to the Troops, and as far successfull as it was possible to Expect, considering the very great disparity of numbers, against which they had to contend the Lieutenant General nevertheless feels it necessary to offer the following cautions and directions for the guidance of Commanding Officers of Corps in the approaching final, and he confidently anticipates successful and glorious Contest—

" Loose—or irregular formations, disorder, or wavering in the Ranks—Noise or inattention to the Word of Command, as they tend to produce Confusion—also tend to reduce us to the level of our opponents—and to take from us all our advantages as diciplined Troops—

" Charges in Mass or rather in Mob never produce any brilliant or successful Effect, nor should a Charge ever be attempted on heavy Columns, or lines of unbroken infantry, but by Troops in the most Correct State of formation and Capable of reforming after being unavoidably thrown in some degree of disorder by their own Charge—it is the Lieut[t] General's intention to give the fairest Scope to the dicipline of the Troops—by allowing their fire its full Effect—

" Whenever the Lieutenant General or Officer Commanding may deem it proper to order the Charge—it is Expected that it will not only be Executed with perfect regularity, but also

with profound Silence—The Lieut[t] General disapproves of Screams and Shouts—British dicipline and intrepidity do not require such paltry aid—

" Firing without orders is the greatest proof of indicipline Troops can be guilty of,—and even when a Company or Battalion are ordered to give its fire—no rear Rank man who is not close locked up to his file leader must presume to join in it "

By order of Lieutenant General Drummond
(Signed) J HARVEY
Lt Col. D.A.G.

Archives, C. 685, p. 31.

Enclosure. From Harvey to Major General Conran.

(Secret) (Copy)

Head Quarters
2[nd] Aug[t] 1814.

Sir,

I am directed by L[t] General Drummond to desire you will place the following Force under the Command of L[t] Colonel Tucker who must be instructed to hold it in readiness to embark this Evening in Batteaux for the purpose of passing over to & operating on the right Bank of the River—viz[t].

	R & F	
4 Batt[n] Comp[s]. 41[st] Regt. .	240	L[t] Col. Evans
2 flank D° – – .	140	
	380	
Light Comp[y] 89[th] Reg[t] .	63	L[t] Col. Drummond
D° 100 – – .	52	
Flank Comp[y]. 104 .	95	
	210	
1 Sub & 2 Steady Serg[t] & 10 Art[y].	10	6 or 8 Ground Rockets & one Rocketeer.
Tot. .	600	

The Detachment of Artillery to take with it a few Six Pr. Cartridges, Post Pieces & Slow Match, a Smith with a Sledge Hammer & Axes with Spikes & every thing necessary for effecting the destruction of Ordnance (if necessary) the burning of buildings Stores & Vessels.

This Force will embark at 10 oClock as near to Frenchmans Creek as may be considered prudent—It is desirable to Land it as near the lower end of Ignaw Island as possible—proper Pilots will be put into the Boats & Guides will be sent to conduct the Column which is to proceed with all possible Silence & Secrecy by the right bank of the Conjuichity Creek to gain the Road leading below the 12 Mile Creek from Buffalo which place is to be the first Attacked & destroyed & the Boats or Craft (if any) in the Creek seized—this (rapidly) effected the Troops are to march upon Black Rock, Attack whatever Force the Enemy may have there, & get possession of their Guns should he have any. Lt Col Tucker will decide at the Moment as to the expediency of spiking, dismounting, or destroying their Guns or manning them & turning them against the Enemy Position or Corps or on the Schooners which are Anchored on his right flank and which Capt Dobbs of the Royal Navy with a Party of Seamen under his Command will make an Attempt to gain. It is desirable that Lt Colonel Tucker should time his March so as to arrive at Buffalo an hour before day in order after Effecting his object at that place, to reach Black Rock just as the day begins to break, at which Moment the whole of the Division on the left Bank will move forward towards Fort Erie for the purpose of favoring Lt Col. Tuckers operations against Black Rock by preventing the Enemy from detaching Troops to that Bank—The destruction of the Enemy's Depot of Provisions & Stores at Buffalo is the first object—the Capture of the Guns, dispersion or Capture of his Troops at Black Rock should he have either at that place the second & scarcely less important.

By this blow if effected & particularly if his Stores & Vessels fall into our hands the Enemys Force on this side will not only be reduced to the necessity of fighting under desperate Circumstances or surrendering unconditionally but it may immediately lead to the Establishment of our Naval ascendancy on Lake Erie.

The foregoing Outline for L^{t} Colonel Tucker's operations is made upon the Supposition that his Force is passed over undiscovered or at least that his Landing is Effected without opposition. Should this not be the case however & should L^{t} Col. Tucker find himself not only discovered but opposed on approaching to shore or attacked on his Landing it may then become necessary for the L^{t} Colonel to change the plan of Operations by beginning with Black Rock and afterwards (if successful) proceeding to execute the other objects of the Service—L^{t} Colonel Tucker will exercise his discretion in this as in every other contingency which may arise & which may not have been contemplated in the preceding Memorandum

The next point to be considered is the disposal of his Batteaux after the Troops are landed—the L^{t} General conceives that they cannot be better disposed of than taking a Station at Strawberry Island on the Lower end of Sqaw [*sic*] Island there to await the return of the Troops—Capt Dobbs will avail himself of any favorable opportunity which may offer of carrying into effect the enterprize any of the Enemys Schooners. [*sic*]

L^{t}. Colonel Nichol Q^{r} M^{r} Gen^{l} of Militia will accompany L^{t} Col Tucker who will not fail to derive the greatest benefit from his valuable local knowledge & his Zeal & ability

I have the honor to be

&c &c &c

(Signed) J. Harvey

D A G

Archives, C. 685, p. 34.

Enclosure. From Tucker to Conran.

Copy

Bivouac near Ferry House
August 4th 1814

Sir/

I am sorry to have to report to you that the force entrusted to my command for purposes stated in the secret instructions, with which you did me the honor to furnish me on the evening of the 2nd Instant has failed in the attempt to accomplish the important and very desirable object contemplated by Lieut General Drummond owing to the Enemy having destroyed the bridge over Conjuncdity Creek, prior to our arrival at that point, and there being no possibility of fording it—I lament to add that in exploring our situation we have sustained a loss of 1 Sergt and 11 Rank and file killed, seventeen wounded and four missing—

I should have been less chagrined at our miscarriage, cou'd I consistently with matter of fact commend the conduct of the Soldiers under my command, unfortunately it becomes a painful but very necessary duty, to apprize you that the men displayed, an unpardonable degree of unsteadiness, without possessing one solitary excuse to justify their want of discipline.—The Officers were perfectly unaware of the sudden impulse of panic, which threw their men into a tumultuous confusion, their exertions and spirit however succeeded in reforming one Column, and I am happy to express my approbation of their conduct.

Lieut. Col. Drummond commanded my advance, and cheerfully afforded me every assistance that I could wish or expect from an officer of zeal and judgment, nor am I less indebted to Lieut Colonel Evans, 41st Regt, who had charge of the reserve—

These officers perfectly concurred with me in opinion,

that the destruction of the bridge, the position of the enemy, and the want of a proper guide, to conduct us through an intricate wood, amply justified my withdrawing my force in the best possible manner, the wood being occupied partially by the enemy, who was evidently collecting a large force to retain the Command of it, and who occupied two small redoubts on the left bank of the Creek, which were so situated as to obstruct my advance by a foot path on the right bank, had one been discovered or pointed out to me.

I have the honor &c

(Signed) John Goulston Price Tucker
L[t] Colonel &c
Commanding Light Brigade

Archives, C. 685, p. 94.

From Drummond at Fort Erie to Prevost at ——.

Camp before Fort Erie,
15 August 1814

Sir,

Having reason to believe that a sufficient impression had been produced on the works of the Enemy's Fort by the fire of the Battery which I had opened on it on the morning of the 13[th] and by which the stone building had been much injured, and the general outline of the parapet and embrazures very much altered. I determined on assaulting the place, and accordingly made the necessary arrangements for attacking it, by a heavy Column directed to the entrenchments on the side of Snake hill, and by two Columns to advance from the Battery and assault the Fort and entrenchments on this side.—The troops destined to attack by Snake hill, which consisted of the King's Regiment and that of de Watteville, with the Flank Companies of the 89[th] and 100[th] Regiments, under Lieutenant Colonel Fischer of the Regiment de Watteville, marched at four O'clock yesterday

afternoon, in order to gain the vicinity of the point of attack in sufficient time.

It is with the deepest regret I have to report the failure of both attacks which were made two hours before day light this morning. Copy of the arrangement for the attack, and the Instructions to the Officer Commanding the Right Column, which, with Lieutenant Colonel Fischer's Report are herewith enclosed, will enable Your Excellency to form a tolerably correct judgment of the cause of the failure of *that* attack—Had the head of the Column (which had entered the place without difficulty or opposition) been Supported, the Enemy must have fled from his works, (which were all taken as contemplated in the Instructions, in reverse,) or have surrendered :—had the Troops been steady for only a few minutes this result must have followed.

The attack on the Fort and entrenchment leading from it to the Lake, was made at the same moment by two Columns, One under Lieutenant Colonel Drummond, 104th Regiment, consisting of the flank Companies 41st and 104th Regiments, and a Body of Seamen and Marines under Captain Dobbs, of the Royal Navy, *on the Fort*; the other under Colonel Scott, 103rd, Consisting of the 103rd Regiment, supported by two Companies of the Royals, was destined to attack the entrenchments.—These Columns advanced to the attack as soon as the firing upon Colonel Fischer's Column was heard, and succeeded after a desperate resistance in making a lodgment in the Fort, through the embrazure of the demi Bastion, the Guns of which they had actually turned against the Enemy who still maintained the Stone Building, when most unfortunately, some ammunition which had been placed under the Platform, caught fire from the firing of the Guns to the *rear*, and a most tremendous explosion followed, by which almost all the troops who had entered the place, were dreadfully mangled :—Panic was instantly communicated to the troops (who could not be persuaded that the explosion

was accidental) and the Enemy at the same time pressing forward, and commencing a heavy fire of Musquetry, the Fort was abandoned and our troops retreated towards the Battery.—I immediately pushed out the 1st Battalion of the Royals to support and cover the retreat, a service which that valuable Corps executed with great Steadiness.—

Our loss has been very severe in killed and wounded: & I am sorry to add that almost all those returned "Missing" may be considered as killed or wounded by the explosion, and left in the hands of the Enemy—

The failure of these most important attacks has been occasioned by circumstances which may be considered as almost justifying the momentary panic which they produced, and which introduced a degree of confusion into the Columns which, in the darkness of the night, the utmost exertions of the Officers were ineffectual in removing—

The Officers appear invariably to have behaved with the most perfect coolness and bravery, nor could anything exceed the Steadiness and order with which the advance of Lieutenant Colonel Fischer's Brigade was made, until emerging from a thick wood it found itself Suddenly Stopped by an Abbatis and within a heavy fire of musquetry and Guns from behind a formidable entrenchment.—With regard to the Centre and left Columns under Colonel Scott and Lieutenant Colonel Drummond, the persevering gallantry of both Officers and Men, until the unfortunate explosion, could not be surpassed:—Colonel Scott 103rd and Lieut Colonel Drummond 104th Regts who commanded the centre and left attacks were unfortunately killed, and Your Excellency will perceive that almost every Officer of these Columns was either killed or wounded by the Enemy's fire or by the explosion.

My thanks are due to the undermentioned Officers, vizt. —to Lieutenant Colonel Fischer, who commanded the Right attack; to Major Coore, Aide de Camp to Your Excellency

who accompanied that Column,—Major Evans, of the King's, commanding the advance; Major Villatte, de Watteville's; Captain Basden, Light Company 89th; Lieut Murray, Light Company 100th. I also beg to add the name of Captain Powell, of the Glengary Light Infantry, employed on the Staff as Deputy assistant in the Quarter Master General's Department, who conducted Lieutenant Colonel Fischer's Column, and first entered the Enemy's entrenchments, and by his coolness and gallantry particularly distinguished himself; Major Villatte of de Watteville's Regiment, who led the Column of Attack, and entered the entrenchments, as did Lieutenant Young of the King's Regiment, with about fifty Men of the Light Companies of the King's & de Watteville's Regiments: Captain Powell reports, that Sergeant Powell of the 19th Dragoons, who was perfectly acquainted with the ground, voluntee[re]d to act as guide and preceded the leading Subdivision in the most intrepid Style—In the centre and Left Columns, the exertions of Major Smelt, 103rd Regiment, who succeeded to the Command of the left Column on the death of Colonel Scott; Captains Leonard and Shore of the 104th Flank Companies—Captains Glew, Bullock, and O'Keefe, 41st Flank Companies—Captain Dobbs, Royal Navy, commanding a party of volunteer Seamen and Marines, are entitled to my acknowledgements—(they are all wounded) Nor can I omit mentioning in the strongest terms of approbation, the active, zealous, and useful exertions of Captain Eliot of the 103rd Regiment Deputy Assistant Quartr Master General, who was unfortunately wounded and taken Prisoner, and Captain Barney of the 89th Regiment who had volunteered his services as a temporary assistant in the Engineer Department, conducted the Centre Column to the attack, in which he received two dangerous wounds—

To Major Phillott, commanding Royal Artillery, and to Captain Sabine, who commanded the Battery as well as the field Guns, and to the Officers and Men of that valuable

branch of the Service serving under them, I am to express my entire approbation of their Skill and exertions—Lieutenant Charlton, Royal Artillery, entered the Fort with the centre Column, fired several rounds upon the Enemy from his own Guns, and was wounded by the explosion.—The Ability and exertions of Lieutenant Philpot, Royal Engineers, and the Officers and men of that department, claim my best acknowledgments.—

To Lieu[t] Colonel Tucker, who commanded the reserves, and to Lieutenant Colonel Pearson, Inspecting Field Officer, and Lieutenant Colonel Battersby, Glengary Light Infantry, and Captain Walker, Incorporated Militia, I am greatly indebted for their active and unremitted attention to the Security of the outposts—

To the Deputy Adjutant Gen[l] and Deputy Quarter Master General, Lieut[t] Colonel Harvey, and Lieutenant Colonel Myers, and to the Officers of their Departments respectively, as well as to Captain Foster, my Military Secretary, and the Officers of my personal Staff, I am under the greatest obligations for the assistance they have afforded me.—My acknowledgments are due to Captain D'Alton of the 90[th] Regiment, Brigade Major to the Right Division, and to Lieutenant Colonel Nichol, Quarter Master General of Militia.—The exertions of Deputy Commissary General Turquand, and the Officers of that department for the Supply of the troops, and the care and attention of Staff Surgeon O'Maley, and the Medical Officers with the division, to the sick also wounded, also claim my thanks.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Excellency's
Most Obedient
humble Servant
Gordon Drummond
L[t] General

Archives, C. 685, p. 83.

Enclosure.

[Endorsed] ARRANGEMENT FOR THE ATTACK ON FORT ERIE.

Head Quarters
Camp before Fort Erie
14th Augt 1814

Secret—

Arrangements

Right Column—Lt Colonel Fischer.
Kings Regt
Volunteers Do De Watteville's
Light Comps 89th & 100th Regts
Detachment Royal Arty 1 Officer 12 Men & a Rocketteer with a Couple of 12 Pr Rockets
Capt. Eustaces Picquet of Cavalry

Capt Powell Dy Capt Qr Mastr Genl will Conduct this Column which is to attack the Left of the Enemys Position.

Center Column—Lt Colonel Drummond.
Flank Comps 41st Regt
Do 104th
Royal Marines 50.
Seamen 90.
Detachment Royal Arty 1 Sub. & 12 Men

Captain Barney 89 Regt will guide this Column which is to attack the Fort.

Left Column—Colonel Scott 103d Regt
103d Regt

Captain Eliot Dy Asst Qr Mr General will conduct this Column which will attack the Right of the Enemys Position towards the Lake and endeavour to penetrate by the Opening between the Fort & the Entrenchment using the Short

Ladders at the same time to pass the Entrenchment which is reported to be defended only by the Enemys 9th Regt—250 strong.

The Infantry Picquets on Bucks Road will be pushed on with the Indians & attack the Enemys Picquet on that Road. Lieut Colonel Nicholl Qr Mr General of Militia will conduct this Column.

The rest of the Troops vizt.

1st Battn. Royals.

Remainder of De Wattevilles Regt

Glengary Light Infantry &

Incorporated Militia will remain in Reserve under Lt Colonel Tucker & are to be posted on the Ground at present occupied by our Picquets & Covering Parties—Squadron of 19 Dragoons in rear of the Battery nearest to the Advance ready to receive Charge of Prisoners & conduct them to the rear.

The Lieut General will Station himself at or near the Battery where Reports are to be made to him.

Lieut Colonel Fischer Commanding the Right Column will follow the Instructions he has received, Copy of which is Communicated to Lt Colonel Scott, & Lt Colonel Drummond for their guidance.

The Lt General most strongly recommends a free use of the Bayonet—The Enemys Force does not Exceed 1500 fit for Duty—and those are represented as much dispirited.

The Ground on which the Columns of Attack are to be formed will be pointed out & the Orders for their Advance will be given by the Lieut. General Commanding.

Signed

J. Harvey
Lt Col DAG.

Archives, C. 685, p. 90.

Enclosure.

[Endorsed] Instructions to Lieu[t] Colonel Fischer, Commanding Right Column of attack on Fort Erie.

Head Quarters Camp
Before Fort Erie
Secret— 14[th] August 1814

Sir

Lieut General Drummond having selected you to command the (volunteer) Force intended to be employed in assaulting the Right of the Enemys Position *

Kings Reg[t]
De Watteville's
Reg[t] (Volunt[rs])
Light Compy 89th
D[o] — 100th d[o]
R[l] Artilly officer
1 — and 12 men a Rocketer and 2.12 pnd[r] Rockets
Capt[n] Eustace's Picquet of Cavalry at Platows—

I am directed to desire that you will accordingly march immediately in order to enable you to pass through the woods before dark—On reaching Baxter's, you will halt for the night, using every precaution which your experience and prudence can suggest, aided by the unceasing personal vigilance of the officers of every rank under your Command, to prevent *desertion* and the consequent discovery of your situation and intentions, to the Enemy; no fire must be lighted, nor any loud challenging by your Sentries or Patroles, permitted. Frequent (hourly) Roll calls must take place and no officer allowed to quit his Company Section or Subdivision for a single moment except while employed in performing the duty of visiting Vidette or Patrole, and which duties officers of every rank must be required to perform—The surprise of the Enemy and perhaps the success of the attack may depend upon this—

You are to advance to the Attack precisely at Two o'clock —You are to enter the Enemy's Position betwixt Snake Hill and the Lake, which is represented to be sufficiently open, but this is not to prevent your making your arrangements

for assaulting any other part of the Position by means of the short ladders or hay bags with which you will be furnished —In order to *ensure success*, the Lieut General most strongly recommends that the flints are taken out of the Firelocks, with the exception of a Reserve of select and steady men who may be permitted to retain their flints (if you think it necessary or advisable) not exceeding one third of your force —This Reserve with the Detachment of Artillery should take Post on *Snakes Hill*.—The Lieut General is unwilling however to suppose the possibility of such necessity, as it can only originate in a check, which he is persuaded, if the Troops are steady and resolute, can not happen—Turning to the left after entering the Position, the whole of the Enemy's diminished and dispirited Troops will be found either in the Trench extending from Snake Hill to the Fort or in rear of the white House near the Lake shore, and in either case— will as well as the Batteries be completely taken in reverse, and exposed to your attack under every favorable circumstances which you could desire—The rest must be left to the valour of the Troops—I am to apprize you that 2 Columns will advance from this side as soon as it is ascertained that that under your Command has entered it—one to attack the Fort composed of Flank Companies under Lieut Colonel Drummond, a party of Seamen and Marines. The other to assault the line of Intrenchments extending from the Fort down to the Lake—A Demonstration will be made a few minutes before 2 o'clock by an attack on the Enemy's Picquet opposite to the center of his Entrenchment—

The Advantages which will be found to arise from the precaution of taking out the flints are obvious—Combined with darkness and silence it will effectually conceal the situation and number of our Troops ; and those of the Enemy being exposed by his fire and his white Trowsers which are very conspicuous mark to our view, it will enable them to use the Bayonet with the effect which that valuable weapon

has been ever found to possess in the hands of British Soldiers. A Detachment of Royal Artillery will accompany the Column for the purpose of either spiking or turning the Enemy's Guns against himself according as may be found expedient

If repulsed, the Troops are to retire upon the Battery on this side ; and on your Reserve at Snake Hill, and the Cavalry which will be posted on the Lake road, on the other.—

If the British Troops meet in the Place, they will recognize each other by the word "Prince Regent" answered by "Twenty" the Counter sign of the night—Captain Powell Quarter Master General's Department, and Major Coore Aid de Camp to His Excellency The Commander of the Forces, will accompany you—As proposals of surrender may probably be made to you, you are to attend to none which are not unconditional, not suffering yourself for a moment to be diverted from the prosecution of your attack—Clemency to Prisoners, it is unnecessary to recommend to you, but in removing them to the rear you must be careful not to detach too many men.—The Cavalry will be found useful in receiving and escorting Prisoners—By making a considerable number of Prisoners, you will find in the event of the contest being protracted until day light, that the Enemy will be so much reduced in numbers as not to be able to make any stand against the force under your Command, (particularly if you have taken possession of Snake Hill) and that which will be detached to cooperate with you from this side—his force is at present understood to be about 1500 fit for duty.—

I shall be found at or near the Battery—

Much is necessarily left to your Judgement and discretion on which Lieut General Drummond has the fullest reliance—

Signed

J. Harvey

L^t C^l

DAG

Archives, C. 685, p. 86.

Enclosure. From Fischer to Harvey.

Copy

Camp 15th August
Sir/ 1814

I have the honor to report to you for the information of Lieut General Drummond, that in compliance with the Instructions I received, the Brigade under my Command consisting of the 8th and De Watteville's Regiment—The Light Companies of the 89th and 100th with a Detachment of Artillery attacked this morning at 2 o'clock the Position of the Enemy on Snake Hill, and to my great concern failed in its attempt—

The flank Companies of the Brigade who were formed under the orders of Major Evans of the King's Regt for the purpose of turning the Position between Snake Hill and the Lake, met with a check at the Abbattis which was found impenetrable, and was prevented by it, to support Major de Villatte of De Watteville's and Captain Powell of the Quarter Master General's department who actually with few men have turned the Enemy's Battery—The Column of support consisting of the remainder of De Watteville's and the Kings Regiment forming the Reserve, in marching too near the Lake found themselves entangled between the Rocks and the Water, and by the retreat of the Flank Companies were thrown in such confusion as to render it impossible to give them any kind of formation during the darkness of the night, at which time they were exposed to a most galling fire of the Enemy's Battery, and the numerous parties in the Abbattis, and I am perfectly convinced that the great number of missing, are men killed and severely wounded at that time when it was impossible to give them any assistance—

After day break the Troops formed and retired to the Camp.

I enclose a return of casualties.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
your most obed^{t} humb^{le} Serv^{t}.
Signed V—— Fischer L^{t} Co^{l}
De Watteville's Regt.

Archives, C. 685, p. 101.

From Drummond at Fort Erie to Prevost at ——.

Private Camp before Fort Erie,
August 16th 1814

Dear Sir,

I have had a most painful and distressing duty to perform, in reporting to Your Excellency the disastrous result of the attack, which I directed to be made yesterday morning on the Enemy's Works, and Fort Erie :—an attack which there was no probability of a doubt but must have succeeded had the Troops fulfilled that part allotted to them.—

It signifies not to the Public, to whom the culpability of failure in military operations is attachable ; the Commander, at all times, falls under censure, however high his character may ever have been.—The agony of mind I suffer, from the present disgraceful, and unfortunate, conduct of the Troops, committed to my superintendence, wounds me to the Soul !—

The Right Column of attack was entrusted to Lieut^{t} Colonel Fischer. And, from the reports I had of it's steady conduct on the line of march, every hope was entertained of a continuance of it in the hour of trial.—Capt^{n} Powell, Deputy Assistant Quarter Master General, led the Column. The Forlorn Hope consisted of a Sub-Division of the Light

Company of the King's Reg^{t} under Lieutenant Young ; and Serjeant Powell, of the 19th Light Drag^{ns} accompanied it, being acquainted with the ground.—This Sub-Division was supported by the Light Company of DeWatteville's Reg^{t} The 100th Light Company followed. Next the second Sub-Division of the King's Light Company. Then the Grenadiers of DeWatteville's ; and the Light Company of the 89th—This Corps, was supported by the Volunteers of De Watteville's, (nearly the whole Regiment,) and the King's Regiment.—

It appears, that part of the Forlorn Hope, and about half of DeWatteville's Light Company, by wading through the water, though the footing was excessively rough and rocky along the Lake Shore, turned the left flank of an Abbatis, which extended from the Enemy's Battery on Snake Hill, (the left of their Position,) to the Lake, and part penetrated through the Abbatis itself, and thereby gained the rear of the Enemy's works.—The fire of the Enemy, at this time, being extremely heavy, both from Artillery, and Musquetry, it would seem as if a simultaneous shock of panic pervaded the greater part of those not in immediate advance. And the Forlorn Hope not finding itself sufficiently supported, was reluctantly under the necessity of relinquishing the advantages they had gained, and of retiring, again through the water, under a most galling fire.—They lost many men ; and DeWatteville's Light Company nearly half their numbers.—The Light Company of the 89th notwithstanding they were almost overwhelmed by the Grenadiers of DeWatteville's in the precipitancy of their retreat, was the only body that preserved it's order, and remained firm upon it's ground.—By this act of steadiness they fortunately lost scarcely a man.—The main body of DeWatteville's Reg^{t} retreated in such confusion, that they carried the King's Reg^{t} before them like a torrent.—

Thus, by the misconduct of this Foreign Corps has the opportunity been totally lost for the present of striking such

a blow at the Enemy's force in this neighbourhood, as would altogether prevent his appearing again in any force on the Niagara Frontier at least during the present campaign.—

The attacking Columns of the left were entrusted to Colonel Scott, and Lieut^{t} Colonel Drummond.—An unfortunate explosion, supposed by accident, of some expense ammunition in a Demi-Bastion of the Enemy's Works, by the destruction of many valuable Officers, and Men, threw the remainder into such confusion, and dismay, that they likewise made a precipitate retreat.—And the Enemy remained in possession of his Works.

Major Coore, Your Excellency's Aide de Camp, who, volunteered his services, accompanied Lieut^{t}. Colonel Fischer's Column, and, I have much pleasure in acquainting you, afforded much assistance to that Officer.—

Captain Powell's zeal, and gallantry, was most conspicuous. His exertions have been at all times so unremitting as to merit my warmest approbation.—

I am now reduced to a most unpleasant predicament with regard to force; as the Royals, the King's, 41st 89th 100th and now the 103rd Regiments, are so much weakened as certainly not to be fit to keep the field.—

I have thought adviseable to order the 82nd Reg^{t}. from Burlington, and York, without delay; and the 6th now on it's march to York also to proceed to this frontier.—

I had intended to order another Regiment from Kingston; but from the badness of the roads, since the recent rains, I could not calculate upon their arrival here, before our Squadron will be ready to take the Lake.—And, as, even at present, a dimunition of our Stores, and Provisions, is beginning to be felt, I entreat Your Excellency will impress upon the Commodore the necessity of conveying to the Right Division, the very first moment the Squadron can leave Harbour, a full supply of each, as well as a reinforcement of Troops: which I should wish to be the 90th or any other equally strong

(*Transcript from the original in the Public Record Office, London.*)

Return of Killed, Wounded and Missing of the Right Division in the Assault of Fort Erie the 15th August 1814.

Corps.	Killed									Wounded										Missing										
	Colonels	Lt Colonels	Majors	Captains	Lieutenants	Ensigns	Serjeants	Drummers	Rank & File	Depy Asst Qr Mr Genl	Majors	Captains	Lieutenants	Ensigns	Masters	Seamen	Serjeants	Drummers	Rank & File	Depy AsstQ M G	Captains	Lieutenants	Ensigns	Midshipmen	Adjutant	Seamen	Serjeants	Drummers	Rank & File	
General Staff	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Royal Artillery	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	
Roy[l] Marine Artillery	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Royal Navy	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	1	12	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	7	..	..	..	
Royal Marines	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	17	
1[st] or Royal Scots	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	2	..	16	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	49	
8[th] or King's Regiment	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	15	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	14	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	15	
41[st] Flank Companies	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	1	..	..	2	..	33	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	3	..	37	
89[th] Light Company	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	
100[th] D° D°	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		2	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	2		5	
103[d] Regiment	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	6	1	..	..	10	1	120	..	1	1	1	..	1	..	30	3	245	The number returned Missing the greater part Supposed Killed by the Explosion of a Magazine.
104[th] D°	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	2	2	23	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	23	
De Wattevilles Regm[t]	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	33	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	26	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	82	
Glengary L[t] Infantry	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Incorporated Militia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	
Total	..	2	..	1	1	..	1	1	51	1	1	8	11	2	1	12	20	3	250	1	1	3	2	1	1	7	41	3	479	

Officers Killed		Officers Wounded			Officers Missing	
Corps	Names	Corps	Names			
1st or Royal Scots	Capt Torrens	Genl Staff	Capt. Powell Dy Asst Qr Mr Genl	Slight Contusion	Genl Staff	Capt Eliott, Dy. Asst Qr Mr Genl
8th Foot	Lieut Noel	Royal Navy	Captain Dobbs	Slightly	Royal Navy	Mr Hyde, Midshipman
103d D°	Colonel Scott	,,	Lieut Stevenson	D°	41st Flk Compy.	Lieut Garner
104th D°	Lt Col. Drummond	,,	Mr Harris, Master	Severely	Do	Ensign Hall
		1st or Royal Scots	Captain Rowan	Severely	100th Lt Compy	Lieut Murray. Wounded & Prisoner
		,,	Lieut Vaughan	Slightly		
		8th Foot	Lieut Young	D°	103d Regt	Captain Irwin
		41st Flk Compy.	Captain Glew	Severely	,,	Lieut Raye
		,,	,, Bullock	D°	,,	Ensign Huey
		,,	Lieut Hailes	Slightly	,,	Lieut & Adjut Pettit
		,,	Ensign Townshend	Severely		
		89th Foot	Captain Barney	D°		
		100th D°	Volunter Fraser	D°		
		103d D°	Major Smelt	D°		
		,,	Captain Gardner	D°		
		,,	,, Colcaugh	D° & Prisoner		
		,,	Lieut Fallau	D°		
		,,	,, Charleton	D° & Prisoner		
		,,	,, Cuppage, Junr	Dangerously		
		,,	,, Meagher	Slightly		
		,,	,, Burrows	Severely		
		,,	,, Hayen	D°		
		,,	Ensign Nash	D°		
		104th 1st Compy	Captain Leonard	D°		
		D°	Lieut M Laughlan	D°		

Recapitulation

	Officers	Serjeants	Drummers	Rank & File
Total Killed .	4	1	1	51
D° Wounded	24	20	3	262
D° Missing .	9	41	3	486
General Total	37	62	7	799

905

Certified Copy
EDWARD BAYNES
Adjut Genl
N.A.

(Signed)
J. HARVEY
Lt Col. Depy Adjut Genl

Regiment, instead of the Canadian Fencibles, or the 97th both comparatively weak in point of numbers.—

I take the opportunity of transmitting this letter by Your Excellency's Aide de Camp, Major Coore.—

I have the honor to be,
Dear Sir,
Your Excellency's
most obedient,
humble Servant,
GORDON DRUMMOND
Lt General

Archives, C. 118, p. 141.

From Drummond at Camp before Fort Erie, to Prevost at ——.

Camp before Fort Erie.
August 18th 1814.

Sir,

From every information I had collected,—previous to my departure from Kingston, I had much satisfaction in being induced to understand, that the Provisions with the Right Division would be fully adequate to it's supply until the 1st of October next, and even for a week or two beyond that period.—How great then must have been my disappointment, when I received the accompanying Return from Mr Turquand this morning! Wherein, independent of waste, or casualty, the quantity in the Commissariat Stores will not afford a sufficiency for our numbers for another month.—

In this alarming state, I have to solicit Your Excellency to urge the necessity of Commodore, Sir James Yeo, hastening with encreased exertions the completion of the new ship, and the consequent sailing from Harbour of the Fleet, on the very first opportunity. By which means, and by which means alone, those supplies of Provisions, and Stores of all

kinds, of which the Army here stands in such excessive need, can be forwarded to this Frontier.—

I trust Your Excellency will impress on the Commodore's mind, that the Right Division, after its disastrous misfortune of the 15th Instant, depends almost entirely on his prompt, and vigorous, exertions, for its relief, nay perhaps even for it's safety.—(How widely different the glorious prospects which were in view, on the day preceeding that deplorable catastrophe !)

I have directed Mr Couche, at all risques, to forward, to York, some Flour, in Batteaux. But still it's safe arrival cannot be calculated upon with certainty.—And I have desired, that all the other small Craft, at Kingston, be freighted with Cargoes, and Kept in constant readiness to seize the first opportunity of running for the Head of the Lake, either on our Squadron leaving Port, or on the Enemy's Fleet betaking themselves, for any occasion, to their own Harbour.—

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Excellency's
most obedient,
humble Servant,
GORDON DRUMMOND
Lt General

Archives, Q. 128–2, p. 271.

(*Transcript from the original in the Public Record Office, London.*)

From Major General de Watteville to Drummond.

Copy

Camp before Fort Erie
19th September 1814

Sir,

I have the honor to report to you that the Enemy attacked on the 17th in the afternoon at 3 o'clock, our position before

Fort Erie the Second Brigade under Colonel Fischer, composed of the 8th and de Watteville's Regiments being on Duty.

Under Cover of a heavy Fire of his Artillery from Fort Erie and much favored by the nature of the ground, and also by the state of the weather, the rain falling in Torrents at the moment of his approach, the Enemy succeeded in turning the Right of our Line of Picquets without being perceived, and with a very considerable Force and in compact order attacked both the Picquets and Support in their Flank and Rear; at the same time another of the Enemy's Columns attacked in front of the Picquets between N° 2 and N° 3. Batteries and having succeeded in penetrating by N° 4 Picquet, part of his Force turned to his left and thereby surrounded our right and got almost immediately possession of N° 3 Battery. The Enemy then directed his attacks with a very superior force towards N° 2 Battery, but the obstinate resistance made by the Picquets under every possible disadvantage delayed considerably his getting possession of N° 2 Battery, in which however he at last succeeded.

As soon as the Alarm was given, the First Brigade, being next for support, composed of the Royal Scots, the 82nd and 89th Reg^{ts} under Lieu^{t} Col. Gordon received orders to march forward, and also the Light demi Brigade under Lieu^{t} Colonel Pearson, the 6th Reg^{t} remaining in reserve under Lieu^{t} Colonel Campbell—From the Concession Road the Royal Scots with the 89th as support, moved by the new Road and met the Enemy near the Blockhouse on the right of N° 3 Battery, whom they engaged and by their steady and intrepid Conduct checked his further progress.

The 82nd Reg^{t} and 3 Comp^{ys} of the 6th Reg^{t} were detached to the left in order to support N° 1 and 2 Batteries. The Enemy having at that time possession of N° 2 Battery, and still pushing forward, Seven Companies of the 82nd under Major Proctor and the Three Companies of the 6th under

Major Taylor received directions to oppose the Enemy's Forces and immediately charged them with the most Intrepid Bravery driving them back across our Intrenchments and also from N° 2 Battery, thereby preventing them destroying it, or damaging its Guns in a considerable degree, Lieu[t] Col. Pearson with the Glengary Light Infty. under Lieut Col. Battersby pushed forward by the Centre Road attacked and carried with great Gallantry the new Intrenchment then in full possession of the Enemy.

The Enemy being thus repulsed at every point was forced to retire with precipitation to their works leaving Prisoners and a number of their wounded in our hands.

By five o'Clock the Intrenchments were again occupied and the Line of Picquets established as it had been previous to the Enemy's attack.

I have the honor to enclose a Return of Casualties and the Report of the Officer Commanding the Royal Artillery respecting the damage done to the Ordnance and the Batteries during the time they were in the Enemy's possession.

I have &c.
(Signed) L. DE WATTEVILLE
Major Gen[l]

To
Lieu[t] General Drummond
&[c] &[c] &[c]

A true Copy
Noah Freer
Military Sec[ry]

Return of casualties of the right division of the army, in action with the enemy; camp before Fort-Erie, Sept. 17, 1814.

Royal artillery;—9 rank and file, missing.

Additional gunners, De Watteville's regiment;—1 rank and file, wounded; 10 rank and file, missing.

1st, or royal Scots;—8 rank and file, killed; 1 lieutenant-colonel, 1 lieutenant, 1 serjeant, 30 rank and file, wounded; 2 serjeants, 15 rank and file, missing.

6th foot;—1 captain, 1 serjeant, 13 rank and file, killed; 1 lieutenant, 1 serjeant, 25 rank and file, wounded; 1 serjeant, 10 rank and file, missing.

8th foot;—1 lieutenant, 1 serjeant, 12 rank and file, killed; 1 lieutenant, 12 rank and file, wounded; 1 captain, 1 lieutenant, 1 ensign, 8 serjeants, 63 rank and file, missing.

82d foot;—2 serjeants, 10 rank and file, killed; 5 captains, 4 lieutenants, 1 ensign, 5 serjeants, 33 rank and file, wounded; 8 rank and file, missing.

89th foot;—1 rank and file, killed; 1 serjeant, 2 rank and file, wounded; 1 serjeant, 19 rank and file, missing.

De Watteville's regiment;—1 lieutenant, 3 serjeants, 58 rank and file, killed; 1 lieutenant-colonel, 1 captain, 3 lieutenants, 4 serjeants, 1 drummer, 26 rank and file, wounded; 2 majors, 3 captains, 2 lieutenants, 1 adjutant, 1 assistant-surgeon, 9 serjeants, 2 drummers, 146 rank and file, missing.

Glengarry light infantry;—3 rank and file, killed; 1 serjeant, 18 rank and file, wounded.

Grand total—1 captain, 2 lieutenants, 7 serjeants, 105 rank and file, killed; 3 lieutenant-colonels, 3 captains, 10 lieutenants, 1 ensign, 13 serjeants, 1 drummer, 147 rank and file, wounded; 2 majors, 4 captains, 3 lieutenants, 2 ensigns, 1 adjutant, 1 assistant-surgeon, 21 serjeants, 2 drummers, 280 rank and file, missing.

Names of Officers.

Killed.

6th foot;—Captain R. D. Patterson.

8th foot;—Lieutenant Barston.

De Watteville's regiment;—Lieutenant Pelliehody.

Wounded.

Royal Scots;—Lieutenant-colonel J. Gordon, severely; lieutenant G. Ratledge, since dead.

6th foot;—Lieutenant Andrews, severely.

8th foot;—Lieutenant Lowry, severely.

82d foot;—Captain I. M. Wright, since dead; captain E. Marshall, slightly; lieutenant H. Pigott, W. Mason, and Robert Latham, severely; lieutenant G. Harman, slightly; ensign C. Langford, since dead.

De Watteville's regiment;—Lieutenant-colonel Fischer, severely; captain Mittelholzer, severely; lieutenant Gingins, severely; lieutenant Steiger, slightly; lieutenant La Pierre, severely.

Staff;—Lieutenant-colonel Thomas Pearson, inspecting field-officer, severely.

Missing—*8th foot*;—Captain Bradbridge, lieutenant M'Nair, ensign Matthewson.

De Watteville's regiment;—Major De Villatte, major Winter, wounded; captain Zehender, Hecken, and Steiger; lieutenant De Berry, lieutenant Hecken, wounded; adjutant Thermet; assistant-surgeon Gorbea.

Archives, C. 685, p. 266.

From Drummond at Niagara to Prevost at ——.

District Head Quarters
Falls of Niagara
24 September 1814

Sir,

The Troops fell back at eight o'clock on the evening of the 21st to the Position alluded to in my letter of that date and bivouaced for the night under torrents of rain—Soon

after day light on the 22nd the Enemy discovered our movement, and pushed out his Picquets—they were soon met by our Picquets (posted on the plain opposite Black Rock) and immediately retreated after exchanging a few Shots, without attempting to molest them.—Having waited until two o'clock as well for the purpose of giving battle to the Enemy should he have ventured out, as of giving time for the movement of all encumbrances behind the Black Creek, I ordered the troops to retire across Frenchman's Creek, and the Bridge over that Creek to be destroyed ; a Cavalry Picquet was left to watch this Bridge and the Troops then proceeded to take up their Cantonments as described in the enclosed order and Sketch—the whole of the movement has this day been completed, and the troops are now in comfortable quarters where it is my intention to give them a few days repose—By a reference to the Map Your Excellency will perceive that the position which the troops occupy extends on the left to within three Miles of Fort Erie, and by Miller's road on the right, limits the Enemy's incursions (in the event of his venturing so far) to a distance of less than Nine Miles, which space moreover has been long ago completely exhausted of its resources—Should the Enemy attempt to penetrate towards Chippawa (in force) he will be first met by Major General de Watteville at Black Creek, where with the 97th Regiment and Royals, the Glengary Light Infantry and Incorporated Militia and Indians, with two Six pounders, and a Squadron of Dragoons, I can have no apprehension of his making any impression or meeting with anything but defeat—If found necessary, however, General de Watteville falls back upon the Chippawa where with the 6th and 82nd Regiments with four additional Field pieces, and the Natural Strength of the Position, I will not suppose it possible for any numbers to make any impression —The advantage therefore of this distribution of the Troops in a defensive point of view, will I think strike Your Excellency, & With regard to offensive operations particularly if to be

undertaken on the other side of the River, it would enable me to masque the movement of my whole Force except a few Dragoons and Light Troops left at the outposts—It also leaves a large portion of my force disposable for the left of my Line (Fort George &ca) and equally would enable me to collect the whole rapidly on either flank.—

I have stationed Major General Stovin on the left at the Forts—My own Head Quarters I have placed as near the centre as possible (at the Falls)—I propose going to inspect the State of the Forts, particularly Fort Niagara, tomorrow morning—my utmost attention is given to that Fort which by all accounts is perfectly open :—I will communicate more fully after I have seen it.—Your Excellency will find from the enclosed Copy of a letter from Captain Hill of the 41st that the first Division of the Prisoners of War taken on Lake Erie and at Moravian Village have at length been sent across at Long Point—

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Excellency's
Most Obedient
humble Servant,
GORDON DRUMMOND
Lt General

Archives, C. 685, p. 261.

Three O'Clock P.M.
21st September 1814

Private Memorandum

The Troops, will change ground, and take a Position near Frenchman's Creek, the left of which is at present Occupied by the 97th Regiment—

An Officer of the Quarter Master General's Department will point out the Ground, and lead the Columns.—They will move this Evening immediately after the Tattoo has sounded.—

All Fires to be left burning; and Huts Standing,—no Huts to be set fire to, on any account.—

The Picquets are, at the same time, to fall Back to the open Ground, on the left of the concession Road; where the Old Reserve used to be posted; from whence they will be further retired, after the Troops have taken up their new Position, by an Officer of the Staff, who will be sent for that purpose.—

J Harvey
D.A.G.

D.G.O.

Head Quarters *Ganders*
23rd Septr 1814

Arrangement

	Corps	*Stations*
Extract	19th Light Dragoons ———	Andrew Millers, with advance parties both on that road and towards Frenchman's Creek.—
	Glenv Lt Infantry ———	Palmers with one Company advanced to Andw Millers to Support the Cavalry.—
	Incorporated Militia ———	Palmers and adjacents
	Western Indians ———	do do
	97th Regiment ———	Black Creek
	Two, 6 Prs Field Pieces ——	do
	1st Battn Royal Scots ———	Streets Grove and adjacents
	One 6 Pr and Detachment of Rockets ———	do do

Corps	*Stations*
6th Regiment	Chippawa
2, 24 Prs 1, 6 d° 1, Howtz	d°
82d Regiment	Lundy's Lane
89th Regiment 104th Flank Comps	Queenston
De Watteville King's 41st	Forts
103rd Regiment	Burlington

Major General Stovin will be pleased to fix his Head Quarters at or in the immediate Neighbourhood of Fort George—

Major Genl De Watteville will be considered as in the immediate Command of the Troops at and in advance of Chippawa—and will place His Head Quarters at some convenient point, to be notified to Major General Stovin and the Lieutenant General Commanding.—

J. Harvey
Lt.-Col. D.A.G.

Note, Major General De Wattevilles Head Quarters are at *Ganders* one mile below Black Creek, Those of the Lieut Genl Commanding at Forsyth's near the Falls.—

NARRATIVE DOCUMENTS

GROUP X (*continued*)

OPERATIONS ON THE FRONTIERS, 1814

NIAGARA FRONTIER: II. CLOSE OF THE NIAGARA CAMPAIGN, SEPTEMBER TO DECEMBER, 1814; COOK'S MILLS. OCTOBER 19, 1814.

Archives, C. 686, p. 1.

From Drummond at Niagara Falls to Prevost at ——.

Head Quarters
Niagara Falls
2nd October 1814

Sir,

Since my last (of the 28th Sept[r]) no material movement has been made on either side—A Patrole of a Corporal and Six Men of the 19th Dragoons has I am sorry to say been cut off and made Prisoners by a party of three hundred men which the Enemy detached for that purpose—the Dragoons must have been most culpably careless and confident or the circumstance could not have happened.—A Reprisal was Yesterday made by a Small party of our Dragoons under Captain Chambers, Deputy Assistant Quarter Master General, who captured a Forage Master and three of their Dragoons near Tycehorne's [*sic*] on the Lake road, and were very nearly making prisoners of the whole of the party, (headed by the Traitor *Marakle*) the Light Company of the 97th being part of the force detached under Captain Chambers.—

In consequence of information which I have received of the Enemy's having received a very considerable reinforcement

of Regular troops under the Command of General Izard, I have made arrangements for concentrating the troops behind the Chippawa, having the advanced Post at Black Creek—This arrangement will very much diminish the comfort which the troops experience in their present Cantonments but is a necessary precaution.—Through the exertions of the parties of Incorporated Militia employed on that duty, the greatest part of the Grain in the possession of the farmers in front of the Chippawa has been threshed out, and the produce generally, withdrawn for the use of the Army—The Inhabitants themselves had driven their cattle behind the Black Creek on the first movement of the troops, and I have this day sent parties under Captain Powell of the Quarter Master General's Department to cause them to be removed behind Lyons' Creek and the Chippawa—tomorrow therefore, it is my intention to withdraw the Royals and 97th across the Chippawa, leaving the Light Companies of the 6th 82nd and 97th Regiments under Major Stewart, the Glengary Light Infantry, a Squadron of the 19th Dragoons, with one Gun, the whole under the Command of Lieutenant Colonel Battersby, in advance extending to the *Black Creek*, at which Position some Field works have been thrown up by the 97th Regiment, under the direction of Major General de Watteville—to guard the water flank, I have requested Captain Dobbs to man and move one of the captured Schooners out of the Chippawa, and place her at the lower end of Grand Island, betwixt that Island and Navy Island—

Having no certain Account of the Enemy's intentions or of the exact accession of force which he may have received (it is reported to be 2,500 Regulars) I can only make general precautionary arrangements to meet his attack which I imagine it will be his object not to delay as he must be aware of the State of equipment of our New Ship, and must believe that the first object of our Squadron will be to bring reinforcements (and supplies) to this Army, against which the

Enemy is now evidently turning all his disposable means.—That it will continue to do its duty I feel the firmest confidence, but I fear it may again be called upon to make greater efforts than it is either prudent to risque or politic to exact; if it be possible to avoid the alternative.—

I now begin to feel very sensibly the want of an efficient "Field" Commissariat—I mean inferior Officers of that Department accustomed to use great personal exertions in discovering and collecting the resources of a Country.—If any such have accompanied the troops from Europe, they would here be invaluable—In the meantime I must employ the Officers and Men of the Incorporated Militia and pay them for their labours.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Excellency's
Most Obedient
humble Servant,
GORDON DRUMMOND
L[t]. General.

P.S.—I have to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's communication of the 23[rd] in Cypher.

Archives, C. 686, p. 5.

From Drummond at Niagara Falls to Prevost at ——.

District Head Quarters
Niagara Falls
6 October 1814

Sir,

Referring to my last letter (2[nd]) I have now the honor to acquaint Your Excellency that an extensive encampment was

discovered opposite to Queenston (at some distance in the interior) early this Morning—Lights and fires had been observed during the whole of last night for the first time—I cannot doubt that this is General Izard's force—A number of Mounted Officers have been seen reconnoitreing the Bank of the River opposite to Queenston at different times to-day.—On the right every Report which I have lately received concurs in representing the preparations which the Enemy have been for some time making to advance as quite complete—Major General de Watteville therefore expects to find Brown opposite to him every hour.—The Major General still continues at Black Creek at my request, notwithstanding there is nothing at present in front of the Chippawa but the Glengary Light Infantry, four Light Companies, a few Men of the Incorporated Militia and two Field pieces—If pressed, he is directed to fall back upon the 6th Regiment at Chippawa, and to defend that Post.—What the Enemy's plans are I can only conjecture—the advanced season of the Year, the prospect of the arrival of our Squadron with reinforcements, the severity (cold) of the weather, the difficulty he must find in supplying his Army in that situation, all these reasons must urge General Izard to do quickly whatever he means to attempt—If Fort Niagara be his object, I hope he will find the recapture of that place not to be easily effected—if he is bold enough to cross the River, I trust the (unavoidably) small force I shall leave at Chippawa will prove sufficient to check Major General Brown long enough to enable me with the whole of the remainder of my small number of disposable troops to attack and defeat the Invader—The crisis to which I have been some time looking is at hand, and I feel confident it will at least prove to us an honorable if not a brilliant one.—

My alarm on the score of provisions encreases, the resources of some of the (reputed) most abundant townships of this frontier have on a Scrutiny greatly disappointed

our expectations—In short nothing but the Squadron can relieve us.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your Excellency's
Most Obedient
humble Servant,
GORDON DRUMMOND
L^t. General.

P.S.—I avail myself of this opportunity to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's communication of the 26^th in Cypher.—

Archives, C. 686, p. 9.

From Drummond at Niagara Falls to Prevost at ——.

District Head Quarters
Niagara Falls
10^th October 1814

Sir,

Since my communication to Major General Kempt (of the 7^th) the greatest part of the Enemy's force under General Izard has moved upwards.—The object of this movement, I have not yet been able to ascertain—From several sources of information however to which I have access, I have undoubted intelligence (confirmed by deserters) that a great effort is about to be made by the Enemy to Capture or to force this Division back from this frontier, on which it is obvious he proposes to cover his Troops during the winter.—General Brown has received a reinforcement of Regular Troops from Detroit variously stated from five hundred to a thousand—three hundred Dragoons have also joined him from Pennsylvania and about two hundred Riflemen have been added to his

4th Regiment—Two thousand Militia men are daily expected at Fort Erie and have been seen on their way—Horses have been passed over for the Artillery in Fort Erie and are constantly trained to the Field Guns—General Brown's force cannot be estimated at less than six thousand (including three thousand Militia)—that of General Izard six Regiments of Regulars.—Their mode of attack does not yet seem decided on—I do not think it improbable that, having the undisturbed possession of Lake Erie, and feeling the difficulty of forcing the passage of the *Chippawa*, he may attempt to gain our rear by the *Grand River*, or by *Long Point*—Such a movement, though offering great obstacles to the Enemy (particularly if the Inhabitants do their duty by removing the Cattle and Waggons) yet as it would compel me to detach from the small force under my command, could not fail of very much embarrassing me particularly as I should have to watch and to meet the attack of the Troops under General Izard who it is understood is to operate on the Right flank of the Niagara.—

The following changes have been made in the distribution of the Troops since my last :—the advance Posts are still a little in front of the Black Creek, the Bridge over which has been destroyed and from which I have thought it prudent to withdraw the Troops and Guns, with the exception of a detachment of 50 men of the Glengary Light Infantry—the remainder of that Regiment is stationed at Street's Grove—the 6th Regiment at Chippawa with the Incorporated Militia at Wisehorn's [*sic*] on the forks of the Lyons and Chippawa, about a mile above the mouth of the latter—and on which a field work is now constructing, to be armed with a long 12 pdr. —the *right* of the position is further watched by small parties of Militia and Dragoons, extending as high as Brown's Bridge, sixteen miles up the Chippawa, and to Cooks Mills ten miles up the Lyons Creek—it is my intention also to throw the Indians over this River, and unless assailed in my centre by the force under General Izard, I do not apprehend its being

possible for the Enemy to force it, and to turn the Position of Chippawa which I do not think he will venture to attack *in front*, that is, if I am allowed a couple of days to mount the Guns proposed to be placed in Battery at that place, and of which a Sketch shall accompany my next letter—The 97th 82nd and Royals are cantoned from Bridgewater to Stamford—they can be concentrated at or near Chippawa in two hours time—A force consisting of the 89th and 100th Regiments, flank Companies 104th, one troop 19th Dragoons with two Six pounders, under Lieut Colonel Lord Tweeddale occupies Queenston—the remaining Corps, viz^{t} 8th 41st and de Watteville's are in the Forts Missisaga, Niagara, and Fort George—

I have ordered the formation of a small Depôt of Ammunition and provisions at the 12 Mile Creek, to which place the Baggage of the Army will be sent in case of attack—The Brigs and Schooners under Captain Dobbs have been employed in removing the sick to York and the 40 Mile Creek—I willingly avail myself of this occasion to express my warm approbation of the cordial and zealous cooperation which I have uniformly experienced from Captain Dobbs of the Royal Navy, whose whole conduct while Acting with this Division entitles him and the Officers and Seamen under his Command to our grateful acknowledgements.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's letter of the 30th enclosing Copy of One to Sir James Yeo, in cypher.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Excellency's
Most Obedient
humble Servant
Gordon Drummond
Lt General

Archives, C. 686, p. 19.

From Drummond at Niagara Falls to Prevost at ——.

District Head Quarters
Niagara Falls
11th October 1814

Sir,

Referring to my letter of the 10th I have the honor to acquaint Your Excellency that I have just received a Report of General Izard's Division (which had for this last two days been encamped at Black Rock) having crossed to the Canada Shore—I therefore hourly expect to hear of the approach of the whole of the Enemy's united force towards the Chippawa. Of the defenses which are constructing at the mouth of that Creek as well as of the whole of the Position which the troops will have to defend, the accompanying Sketch may give Your Excellency some idea—I regret to state however that those defences are by no means yet completed, tho' they would, by tomorrow evening, (if the Enemy gives us until that time) be in a state capable of making a very tolerable resistance—by that time the Platforms in the Tete de pont would be laid and the Abbattis round that work, and the Picketting round the Redoubt at Weishun's completed and four Iron 12 prs mounted—

By the enclosed Copy of a District General Order, Your Excellency will be informed of the arrangement for collecting the troops—One of the principal advantages of their Position behind the Chippawa is that it enables me to suffer them to remain undisturbed in their cantonments until the very moment when they may be required to act.—As soon as the Enemy moves it is my intention to bring up the troops from Queenston under the Marquess of Tweeddale, and probably

the detachment from the Garrisons of the Forts, which Major General Stovin has been ordered to hold in readiness in the Instructions of which a Copy is enclosed—With this force amounting to about ach a s h b m t h w y p n o a o b g x l y z, I should be strongly induced to risque an attack on double their Numbers, should the Enemy by dividing his force afford me a favorable opportunity.—The aggregate force of the Enemy I cannot estimate lower than Eight thousand—deserters state it as high as ten thousand—They say that a vast number of Boats are to be employed in the expedition, and that twelve pieces of Artillery are already embarked—The impression which their vast preparations and force of the Enemy, together with our great numerical inferiority and the non-arrival of reinforcements to this Division, have produced on the minds of the Inhabitants of *this frontier* has been such as to induce them very generally to abandon their homes and property.—I have been endeavouring to induce the Militia to come forward, but under actual circumstances I can scarcely expect my call to be complied with to any great extent—Nor have the Indians, who had returned to the Head of the Lake, on the Troops going into Cantonments, yet come forward again—

I have said enough to shew Your Excellency the difficulties of my situation which the Squadron, unless it brings me a strong reinforcement of *troops* will by no means relieve—I have however ceased to reckon upon any relief depending on the Squadron.—The troops which may arrive in it may indeed serve to repair my losses, but they cannot now possibly arrive in time to take any Share in the contest which I fear this gallant little Division will shortly have to maintain against *i g p y w p* its numbers.—While I feel confident that its gallantry and efforts will be such as to call forth the applause of its King and Country and of every impartial Military Man, (whatever may be the result) I cannot but deeply lament that any circumstances should have placed this

portion of the British Army in a situation such as I have described—

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Excellency's
Most Obedient
humble Servant
GORDON DRUMMOND
L[t] General

Archives, C. 686, p. 13.

Enclosure.

Copy Head Quarters, Niagara Falls
11 October 1814

D.G.O.

N° 1. The whole of the Militia of the surrounding Country will be called out for the defence of the Chippawa on which Line Major General De Watteville will make Such a distribution of the Incorp[d] and Sedentry Militia Troop of 19[th] Dragoons and the Indian Warriors as he may consider most adviseable for effectually watching and Guarding the Banks of the Chippawa and Lyons Creek.—

2—The whole of the heavy Baggage of the Regiments composing Major General De Wattevilles command is immediately to be sent to Fort George where it will be placed in charge of a Subaltern Officer ordered on that duty from the Corps which can best spare one—But it is the Lieu[t] General's most positive commands and one for which he is determined to hold Comm[g] Officers of Corps Strictly responsible to him that no Effective Soldier (whether Servant or Bât Men) is sent with the Baggage to the rear—The Guard must be wholly formed of Convalescents or weakly Men—As the

Efficiency of the Army so Materially depends upon the Strict Observance of this Order, The Lieu[t] General is determined not to allow its violation—He is induced to be the more particular on this head from having Observed the disgraceful number of Serviceable men who were sent to the rear Under various pretences during the last movement which the Army made from Fort Erie—

The Waggons attached to the Regiments are to be employed in removing the Baggage and every empty returning Waggon belonging to the different Departments is to be made use of for this purpose—

3—In the event of an Action Drummers or Band will alone be permitted to attend the Wounded to the rear—Officers Commanding Corps will be responsible for the rigid Observance of this Order—

4—Three Guns fired from the Heights of Lundy's Lane at the interval of One Minute betwixt each will be considered as the Signal for the Corps to Assemble on their respective alarm posts—And to close up without waiting for further Orders to the Head of the Column at Bridgewater—A Six P[r] will be immediately detached from Chippawa to Lundy's Lane for the purpose of firing this signal which is to be repeated at Queenston—with a view to keep the Men of the different Regiments as much collected as possible The Lieu[t] General recommends frequent Roll calls during the day—

5—The D[y] Q[r] M[r] General will make Arrangements for concentrating the Troops in their Cantonments with their Right resting at Bridgewater and their Left at Lundy's Lane—

Commissariat Stores will be removed to Stamford—The sick will be removed from the Hospital at Clarkes House—

" Signed "

J Harvey L[t] Col[l]
D.A.G.

Mem° Captain Smith 6th Foot—Lt Lowrey 8th Regiment have Leave to proceed to York for the recovery of their wounds—

Copy J H—
DAG

Archives, C. 686, p. 16.

From Harvey at Niagara Falls to Maj.-Gen. Stovin—

Head Quarters
Falls of Niagara
11 October 1814

Sir,

With reference to the Instructions with which you have been verbally furnished, I am directed by Lieutenant General Drummond to desire that you will detach the troops named in the margin, or such portion of them as you may deem prudent, to Queenston, as soon as possible after the firing of the alarm signal from that post and Lundy's lane.

Completed to R. & F.
Light Compy 8th 50
Flank Comps 41st 100
Two Battn Cos Do 100
Do de Watteville's 200
450
One Six pdr

Lieutenant Colonel Lord Tweeddale has orders to march at the same time to Lundy's lane, leaving the flank Companies of the 104th or a detachment of 50 men to occupy Queenston until the arrival of the troops detached from Fort George.—The Lieutenant General leaves it to you to nominate an Officer to command the detachment above ordered; but directs me to observe that Lieutenant Colonel Warburton 41st Regiment, appears to him to be an Officer well calculated for it as well as being a disposeable Field Officer—

The Lieutenant General also leaves to your discretion to proceed yourself to assume the command of the Troops detached or to remain at the Forts—In deciding on this point you will of course be influenced and determined by the indications or movement of the Enemy in your neighbourhood—The same discretionary permission is given to You

in respect to joining the more advanced portion of your command under the Marqess of Tweeddale.—If you leave the Forts, the next Senior Officer, Colonel Tucker, as well as the Officers respectively Commanding at the different Forts must receive the most positive orders for the utmost vigilance and precaution being used to prevent surprize, and for their defence to the last extremity in case of being attacked.—

The Troops detached from the Forts are not to advance beyond Queenston, nor those from Queenston beyond Lundy's lane without orders to that effect: but their arrival at those places is to be reported to Head Quarters by a mounted Officer who will receive the Lieu[t] General's orders for their further guidance—

I have the honor to be, &c

(Signed) J. Harvey

D. A. Gen[l]

Archives, C. 686, p. 15.

From Harvey at Niagara Falls to Lt. Col. the Marquess of Tweeddale at ——.

Confidential

Head Quarters
Niagara Falls
11 October 1814

My Lord,

With reference to the Instructions with which you have already been furnished, and to the District General Order of this day, I am directed to desire that on the firing of the Alarm Signal, you will march with the force under your command to Lundy's lane, reporting your movement by Dragoon to Major General Stovin and sending forward a mounted Officer to the Head Quarters of the Lieu[t] General Commanding for further instructions—And leaving the

flank Companies of the 104th or a detachment of 50 Men with *one Gun* to occupy the Post of Queenston until the arrival of the troops and Gun which Major General Stovin has been directed to detach to Queenston on receiving information of your movement—

I have the honor to be, &c
J Harvey
D. A. Gen[l]

Archives, C. 686, p. 31.

From Drummond at Niagara Falls to Prevost at——

District Head Quarters
Falls of Niagara,
15th October, 1814.
Midnight.

Sir,

On the evening of the 13th the Enemy advanced to Black Creek and having effected the passage of that Creek during the night, he continued his advance as far as Street's grove on the following morning, the Glengary Light Infantry retiring before him in the most perfect order and with the utmost regularity—A line of Picquets was taken up at a short distance in front of the tete de pont and occupied until this morning when they were obliged to retire into the work before the whole of the Enemy's Army which advanced to make a reconnoissance, supported by the fire of a considerable number of heavy guns—the firing continued, on his part, the whole day during which he continued to display his Columns, but did not venture to make any attack—I think it probable that he might have been deterred from this by the *occasional* fire of the Guns which are already mounted in this Position and the tete de pont—at Sunset he ceased his annoyance and

retired to his camp (at Street's Grove)—The casualties of the troops under my command have been very few—Returns have not yet been collected—Several of the Guns were struck in consequence of the unfinished state of the Batteries —The troops are full of ardour, and I have only most deeply to lament that I have not a sufficient number of them to admit of my indulging that feeling by leading them to the attack of the Enemy. I am persuaded that if I possessed the means of availing myself of the present Crisis, the movement which has been made by the Enemy on this frontier offers a most favorable opportunity. And here I cannot refrain from observing that if I had the 90th and *One* other Strong and effective Regiment (which can so well be spared) I am fully of Opinion that I should have it *now* in my power to strike a blow which would not only give immediate tranquillity to this Province but go far towards finishing the War in Upper Canada—As it is, I cannot feel either Sanguine or comfortable—Your Excellency's communication of the 11th (just received) effectually banishes all such feelings.—Should the 90th Regiment (or some strong Regt) and the requisite supply of provisions and Stores, not come up in the Squadron, and should any disaster happen to this Division (in consequence) and above all should Commodore Chauncey (as is probable) decline an Action, His Majesty's Naval Commander will in My Opinion have much to answer for

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your Excellency's
Most Obedient
humble Servant
GORDON DRUMMOND
Lt General

Archives, C. 686, p. 34.

From Drummond at Niagara Falls to Prevost at ——.

District Head Quarters
Falls of Niagara
18 October 1814.

Sir,

During the whole of the 16th the Enemy continued to display Columns of Infantry in front of our Position at the mouth of the Chippawa, without, however, venturing within range of our Guns or offering us any annoyance with his— About One O'Clock on the 17th his troops disappeared—Our Picquets were immediately thrown out, and a reconnoissance of Cavalry and Infantry pushed in different directions, and it was found that the Enemy had retired from his Camp at Street's grove, and was moving in the direction of Black Creek, at which place he halted and encamped—our Patroles being pushed close to his Picquets during the night.—The cause of this sudden retrograde movement of the Enemy's I have not yet ascertained—Spies and Deserters say it was owing to finding our Position at the mouth of the Creek so much Stronger than they had expected, added to the intelligence which they had received of the approach of our fleet, which *did* make its appearance this morning—The wind not having been favorable it might have been discovered off the Genessee some days ago and reported to General Brown, and thereby account not only for his retreat but for the *precipitation* with which it has been marked, such as Provisions left on the ground, some Camp Equipage burnt (for which I consider they had not carriage) and two Boats which had been sent over to Schlosser for fresh Provisions the same morning having returned to Streets grove without knowing that the American Army had left it—One of these

Boats was taken by our Picquet and contained fresh meat, Bread and Spirits for at least a Brigade—

That the Enemy has not quitted his Position in our immediate front with any intention of retracing his Steps to Fort Erie or his own Shores without some further attempt to penetrate further into the Province is sufficiently apparent from the event of this day (18th)—Early this forenoon information was brought me that a large Body of the Enemy was moving up Black Creek in the direction of Cooks Mills on *Lyon's Creek*—The Glengary Light Infantry and Seven Companies of the 82nd Regiment were immediately moved in that direction, and in consequence of a Report which I have just received of the Enemy's having passed Lyon's Creek at *Cook's Mills* in force, the troops above mentioned have been reinforced by the remaining three Companies of the 82nd, the 100th Regiment, and a Gun—With this force I have directed Colonel Myers to feel the Enemy closely, and I shall cause him to be attacked if not too strong—Orders have been sent for the destruction of *Brown's Bridge* (on the Chippawa) and as the Enemy cannot (I think) possibly bring *Guns* I hope and believe he will be found to have committed himself by his movement, unless he retires in the course of the night.—If the Report which I have received of his having moved only *one* Brigade (not exceeding 2000 men) to Cook's be confirmed during the night, I shall add the 6th Regiment to the Troops above enumerated and attack this Brigade at day light, leaving Major General De Watteville to maintain the Position against the remainder of the Enemy's force (of about 6000) which he will have no difficulty, in my opinion, in doing.—In all events I shall endeavour to give Your Excellency a further Report tomorrow—

A report from Fort George of the fleet (five Sail) being in sight, reached me at noon to-day—As I have received no further Report I conclude they have not yet communicated with the Forts.—Colonel Harvey has written by my directions

to Sir James Yeo proposing to him to Spare me some of his Marines, in addition to the troops which he may have brought up ;—though I have no idea of his acquiescence in such a proposal, I have nevertheless thought it right on Several Accounts to make it—I have already told Your Excellency that " the Squadron unless it brings me a Strong reinforce-" ment of troops will by no means relieve the difficulties " of my situation."

‖ I enclose copy of my arrangement for meeting the attack of the Enemy in the Position of the Chippawa.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Excellency's
most obedient
humble Servant
GORDON DRUMMOND
L^t General

‖ P.S. I have had the honor to receive Your Excellency's Cypher communication of the 13^th.

Archives, C. 686, p. 77.

From Drummond at Niagara Falls to Prevost at ——.

District Head Quarters,
Niagara Falls.
20^th October 1814

Sir,

Early yesterday morning the 6^th Regiment was passed over to Weishem's to which point I myself proceeded for the purpose of being ready to move to the attack of the Enemy's force at Cook's Mills should the result of the reconnoissance which I directed Colonel Myers, Deputy Quarter Master

General to make, appear to me to render such a movement adviseable—The Instructions with which Colonel Myers was furnished are contained in the enclosed Copy of a letter addressed to him by the Deputy Adjutant General Lieutenant Colonel Harvey by my direction, and which have been executed by Colonel Myers and the Detachment placed under his command entirely to my satisfaction.—The particulars of the affair Your Excellency will find detailed in Colonel Myers' Report, and I have only to add that the judgment and ability which was displayed by Colonel Myers in the execution of my instructions entitle him to my best acknowledgements—His Report of the Gallantry and good conduct of the Troops though highly gratifying is nothing more than might be expected—I have never known them to act otherwise.—I enclose Copy of the Order which I have issued on the occasion—

It appears that the force which had penetrated through almost impassable Roads to Cook's Mills consisted of one Brigade, viz^{t} :—the 5th 14th 15th & 16th Regiments of General Izard's Army under Brigadier General Bissell.—A reinforcement of two Regiments joined them this morning from General Brown's Army—feeling the difficulties of his situation however, and the impossibility of moving even the Common Waggon of the Country much less *Guns* through such Roads, and finding a powerful force in his front not only ready to meet him but anxious to entice him into the open ground, the Commanding General of the American Army has wisely thought proper to withdraw this force, which accordingly retreated from Cook's Mills at two o'clock this afternoon without even destroying the Mills though he certainly might have done so on Public grounds.—I must however do him the justice to acknowledge that as far as I have observed, he has been studiously *cautious* in abstaining from his burning & plundering System—probably admonished by the Retaliation inflicted at Washington and on the Coast.

It is impossible for me to say what this Army may next attempt, but his failure in his endeavour to turn my Right and the great improvement which I have been able to make, by unceasing exertions, in the defences at the Tete-de pont and Weisheen's, leave me far less anxious on the subject of being able successfully to repel all the Enemy's attempts on this Position than I was on his first approach at which period I had little or nothing to aid the Gallantry of the Troops—The Tete de Pont is now a very complete and defensible work: the Ridoubt at Weisheen's is also in a respectable state, and the Guns are so disposed and covered along the left bank of the Chippawa between these two Posts, as to render the whole Position very strong and consequently to leave the greatest part of my force disposeable to oppose the Enemy should he ever succeed in turning my Right.

In consequence of a succession of adverse and violent Winds no communication has yet been had with the Squadron although they have been off the Niagara these three days—Gen[l] Stovin Reports that they were expected to get in this evening.

The disappointment I experienced at finding that half the 90[th] Regiment had been left to Struggle through the dreadful Roads betwixt Kingston and York at such a season, and at *such a Crisis*, was greater than I can express.

I have now distinctly & earnestly to recommend to Your Excellency to send up to this frontier *two* effective Regiments in addition to the 90[th], one of them to go to Burlington where their active services will be required, and the other to Fort George to relieve and enable me to send down to the Lower Province the following Regiments, viz[t]: the Royals, King's, 41[st] 89[th] 100[th] 103[rd] and De Watteville's, (Seven) and which cannot move from hence until the arrival of those destined to replace them.—I shall communicate with Sir James Yeo on this subject and urge him to apply his

Ships to the only Service which they can render us during the remainder of this Season.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Excellency's
most Obedient
humble Servant
GORDON DRUMMOND
Lt General

P. S. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's letter of the 15th.

Archives, C. 686, p. 70.

Enclosure.

From Myers on Lyons Creek to Drummond at Niagara Falls.

(Copy)[1] Wilsons[1] House on Lyons Creek
October 19th 1814

Sir,

I have the honor to report to you, that I proceeded this morning according to your orders to reconnoitre the position of the Enemy at Cooks Mills, distant from hence three Miles, where he was understood to be in force—

I directed Lieut Col[l] Battersby with the Glengary Regiment of Light Infantry to move in front and on the Flanks, Lieut Col[l] the Marquiss of Tweeddale with the 100th the Flank Companies of the 104th and those of the 82d with a six pounder, and the Rockets in support, and Major Proctor with the remainder of the 82d Regiment to move in Reserve, the whole about seven Hundred and fifty men—

I found the Enemy's advance with a strong support,

[1] These two entries seem to be in the same hand, which is different from that of the letter.

posted on the right Bank of a Ravine which runs to Lyons Creek a small distance from the Mills ; a part of the Glengary Regiment turned round a small wood, which covered the front of the Enemy, and crossed the head of the Ravine, whilst the remainder passed through the wood, by this movement the Enemy's Light Troops were driven back in admirable Style—whilst a part of his force crossed Lyon's Creek for the purpose of annoying our Left, having chiefly the reconnoissance in view and finding that object not attainable by a forward movement from the thickness of the woods, I retired the Glengary Regiment and fell back a small distance in the hope of drawing the Enemy forth to the open Ground, and if circumstances would justify it, to bring him to a more General Action.—

This had no farther the desired effect than that he advanced to the skirts of the wood, and shewed two Columns on our left and one on our Right, opening a heavy fire of Small Arms, and which from the distance we sparingly returned, but from the fire of the Six Pounder and the Rockets the Enemy's Columns on our left suffered severely—from my own observation and from the reports which I have received I cannot Estimate the force of the Enemy at less than from 1500 to 2000 Men, he had no Cannon, finding it impossible to draw him fairly from the woods, I retired the Troops to their Cantonments around this place, Keeping my advance close to that of the Enemy.—

The conduct of the Glengary Regiment during this Campaign has been so conspicuous that L^{t} Col^{l} Battersby and the Officers and Men of that Corps can receive little further from any Report of mine ; but on this occasion I cannot refrain from adding my humble tribute of applause to their earned fame.—

To Lieu^{t} Col^{l} the Marquiss of Tweeddale and the Corps under his immediate orders, and to Major Proctor and the 82^{d} Regiment my best acknowledgments are due, the

steadiness and conduct of those Troops merits my highest commendation.—

The service of the Six Pounder and the Rockets was most judiciously directed by Lieu[t] Carter of the Royal Artillery.—

I beg also to State the able assistance I received from Major Sparrow, Ass[t] Adj[t] General, and from Captain Powell D[y]. Ass[t]. Q[r] M[r] General who was attached in the first instance to Lieu[t] Colonel Battersby and I am happy of this opportunity to acknowledge the zealous and meritorious conduct of this Officer in his department since the opening of this Campaign.—To Major Glegg who was sent forward by you for a Report I am much indebted during the time he remained with me.—

I transmit a return of Casualties which I regret should be so great, and I am much concerned to find that, that valuable Officer Captain M[c]Millan of the Glengary Regiment is amongst the wounded—The Loss of the Enemy could not be ascertained, but I have every reason to believe it severe, his Columns being under the fire of the six pounder and the Rockets.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your Most Ob[t]. Serv[t].
(Signed) Chris[r]. Myers Col[l].
D[y]. Q[r]. M[r]. Gen.

Archives, C. 686, p. 85.

From Drummond at Niagara Falls to Prevost at ——.

Head Quarters
Niagara Falls
23 October 1814

Sir,

The two Regiments stated in my last to have been detached to augment the Enemy's force at Cook's Mills on

the morning of the 20th it appears were moved solely for the purpose of covering its retreat.—On the morning of the 21st the Enemy again shewed some Troops in front of our Position at Chippawa—Relieved however from all apprehensions for the security of my *Right*, I had no fears as to anything he could effect in front : in fact after a short display, (the object of which I suspected at the time and which will be hereafter explained) his Columns were withdrawn and nothing but his Picquets remained in sight.—Anxious to have an interview with Commodore Sir James Yeo, I took the opportunity of riding down to Niagara and went on board the Squadron.—On my return here Yesterday I found the Enemy's Picquets had disappeared—Immediate arrangements were made for moving the whole Division (augmented by five Companies of the 90th Regiment) to harrass or attack the Enemy in his retreat, should the reconnoissance which I prepared to make, or the information which I expected to receive appear to justify such a movement—The troops were ordered to Cook and were Brigaded as stated in the enclosed Order.

I moved on at day light this morning with the Cavalry and Light troops, and having ascertained that the Enemy had not a Man on this side the heights opposite Black Rock, on which ground his advance was Posted, I ordered the troops to return to their cantonments : the weather being uncommonly Severe, and not being in possession of any information relative to the situation of the Enemy's Main Body, his intentions or numbers (remaining on this shore) sufficiently positive to Warrant my Committing the Troops by a forward movement—It is evident that he has abandoned all idea of offensive operations against this frontier, and I doubt not by tomorrow morning receiving positive Accounts of his having crossed the whole of his force (except perhaps five or six hundred men left in Fort Erie) to his own Shores.—I am sorry that it has not been in my power to inflict some

punishment on him at the moment of his departure (as an additional memento). I feel however that it would be imprudent without good information to attempt it, and I also feel perfectly convinced that sufficient has been done by this Gallant Division during this campaign effectually to deter the Enemy from ever again attempting the invasion of this frontier—It has been practically demonstrated that the Chippawa is not only a defensible position but an exceedingly strong one (as it was always heretofore understood and believed to be) and, strengthened as it now is from its mouth to Weishun's, I have no hesitation in giving it as my opinion that 1,500 men with a *few disposable* field Guns would maintain it against any numbers which the Enemy could bring—Your Excellency's apprehensions for the *Right* of this Position have arisen from the omission in the sketch of the word "*impassable*" for everything but infantry, by which all the Roads leading in that direction should have been characterized.

The Squadron sailed last night, having on Board the remains of the 1st Battalion King's Regiment, and the Flank Companies 104th.—I have furnished Sir James Yeo with a memorandum with reference to my last communication to Your Excellency proposing to him to bring up any two Regts. Your Excellency might think proper to send for the relief of the worn out Regiments of this Division which, or as many as may be possible I propose to send down by the Squadron.—Those I am most anxious to get down are the 100th, 103rd, Royals, De Watteville's and 41st—the 89th and Glengary Light Infantry I propose sending over to York with the Incorporated Militia.

There is so much disease in the 103d and that Corps is in every other respect so useless and inefficient, and there is so much occasion for an efficient Regiment in the Neighbourhood of Burlington, that I am particularly desirous this object should be effected—I should propose however to place

the greatest part of the Corps at Turkey point, in a strong work which I recommended to be constructed and where for many reasons I should strongly advise the formation of the proposed Naval establishment instead of on the Shores of Lake Huron—In fact my own impression is that the obstacle in the way of this establishment at the latter place will be found to be insurmountable—I shall however write more fully on this subject—Captain Payne is arrived, but as I consider it absolutely necessary that a *Naval Officer* as well as a Builder should accompany him in his survey, I shall detain him here until the return of the Squadron—I have already had some conversation with Sir James Yeo on the subject.

As I consider my presence on this frontier no longer particularly required, it is my intention to return in the Squadron to Kingston—leaving Major General Stovin in this Command, the arrangements of which shall be transmitted to Your Excellency (with reference to the late General Order) as soon as I have leisure to make them—Major General De Watteville's family having arrived in this country, I would propose to Your Excellency that Major Gen[l] Robinson should proceed to this frontier, (where moreover he will find the greatest part of Major General Kempt's Brigade assembled) to assist Major Gen[l] Stovin in the Duties of this most important Command—Major Gen[l] De Watteville relieving him in the Command of the centre Division at Kingston.

With reference to the arrangement of the Departmental Staff for Upper Canada, contained in the General Order of the 15[th] ins[t] I must beg leave to recommend that the Deputy Adjutant General be allowed a Subaltern Officer as a temporary Deputy Assistant to *him* in succession to Lieutenant Moorsam, or a confidential Clerk with an adequate Salary.—I have had constant opportunities of witnessing the absolute necessity of Lieu[t] Colonel Harvey's being allowed

some assistance of this nature in the various important Duties which he has to perform.

Referring to a passage in Your Excellency's letter of the 17th received Yesterday, I have the honor to enclose an Extract of a letter addressed by Commodore Sir James Yeo to the Deputy Adjutant General in answer to an application which I had directed Lieut Colonel Harvey to make to him for the aid of a Body of Marines.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your Excellency's
Most Obedient
humble Servant
GORDON DRUMMOND
Lt General

P.S. The Western Indians are without Mocassins—their goods are now lying in Store at Kingston—it is very desirable that they should be forwarded by the Squadron—

Archives, C. 686, p. 84.

Enclosure.

From Yeo off Niagara to Harvey at ——.

His Majs Ship St. Lawrence
off Niagara 19th Octr. 1814

(Extract)

I am concerned General Drummond should make a request which I cannot comply with—without exposing the honor of the Flag, the interest of the Country, and my own reputation, to most eminent danger—The Enemy's fleet may very possibly engage the squadron under my Command—and the

Marines compose the most efficient part of their Crews— under these circumstances, it is impossible I can comply with his request.—

(Signed)
James Lucas Yeo.

Archives, C. 686, p. 96.

From Drummond at Niagara Falls to Prevost at——.

Niagara Falls
23rd Oct^{r} 1814

Sir,

Some time since I stated to Your Excellency that my indifferent state of health would not admit of my using the exertion I felt anxious to make in the important discharge of my duty. In consequence of an internal complaint occasioned by an injury I received some months before I came out to this country, which has encreased so much of late, as to give me great uneasiness & alarm, & from which I continually suffer great distress, particularly when under the necessity of using violent exercise on horseback; places me under the absolute necessity of requesting Your Excellencys permission to return to England before this season closes. I have also private business of the most *important* & *urgent* nature that requires my presence.

I have postponed making this application to the latest moment, but as all active operations for this season must now cease, I trust Your Excellency will have the goodness to accede to my request, which will be conferring a particular favour.

I have the honor to be
with respect,
Your Excellency's
Most Obedient
Humble Servt
Gordon Drummond
L^{t} General

Archives, C. 686, p. 106.

From Drummond at Niagara Falls to Prevost at ——.

Head Quarters, U. Canada
Niagara Falls
26 October 1814

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Adjutant General's communication (in Cypher) of the 21st in answer to mine of the 15th announcing Your Excellency's intention of sending up the 9th and 37th Regiments, and of proceeding Yourself to this frontier in the Squadron.—As I conclude my Subsequent letters, particularly that of the 23rd would have the effect of inducing Your Excellency to relinquish this latter idea, I shall continue to address Your Excellency at Kingston, to which place I have already intimated that it is my intention to proceed by the return of the Squadron—

The Main Body of the Enemy continues in Fort Erie and encamped close to it—its Picquets thrown out a very Short distance, and in every other respect evincing very little precaution against attack, or rather in some respects, such as leaving the Bridges uninjured, appearing to invite our advance—My information leads me to believe that General Brown with a portion of his Army has crossed the River, and they say has proceeded in the direction of Sackett's Harbour—there remain therefore only General Izard's with part of Brown's Army, which, if I succeed in gaining good information respecting their exact force and situation, I may be induced, when joined by the left wing of the 90th Regiment to attack—but without good information I shall not commit the troops by this operation.—

I have some time ago received information from various

Sources of the Enemy's intention to push a party of mounted men from Detroit up the River Thames towards Burlington. I have this evening received accounts from Lieu[t] Colonels Parry and Smelt of the approach of this party (the strength of which is variously stated) and at the same time a report has arrived of a Body of the Enemy having landed at the mouth of the Grand River :—both these reports are of a nature very confused and indistinct, and I doubt not it will prove that the parties in question are a small number of Plunderers whom the Armed Settlers of the Country ought to repel—I have however permitted the Grand River Indians under Captain Norton (who only arrived on this frontier three days ago, *after* the Enemy had retreated) to return to their homes,—as also the few men who had come out of the 5[th] Lincoln Militia.—I have likewise detached one of the Troops of the 19[th] Dragoons to Ancaster, which will be so far on its way to the Lower Province Should Your Excellency assent to the proposition I have made for the relief of Major Lisle's Squadron—I enclose a letter and note forwarded by Lieu[t] Colonel Parry relative to a most atrocious Murder committed by a small Gang of Ruffians on Captain Francis of the Norfolk Militia.—On the whole Your Excellency will agree with me that it is very necessary that an efficient Regiment should be sent to Burlington—

I beg to remind Your Excellency of the necessity of the appointment of an Assistant Provost Martial to this Division.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your Excellency's
most Obedient
humble Servant,
GORDON DRUMMOND
L[t] General

Archives, C. 686, p. 114.

From Drummond at Falls of Niagara to Prevost at ——.

Head Quarters
Falls of Niagara
30th October 1814

Sir,

Since my last I have had the honor to receive Your Excellency's letter of the 25th together with one from the Adjutant General of the same date—If the Squadron brings up only one Regiment it will be necessary that it should make another trip—or at all events that the smaller Vessels should come up again, an arrangement which I shall propose to Sir James Yeo, and to which I cannot anticipate any reasonable objection.—I imagine Major Gen[l] Baynes has made a mistake in the Cypher part of his communication which States the issue of Rations on this frontier at 4000 daily—A reference to the weekly Returns of the Commissariat Department will shew that nearly *double* that number are issued daily with this Division exclusive of Burlington and York—a famine therefore would be the consequence of any hesitation or refusal on the part of the Naval Commander to take down the Regiments which shall have been relieved.

Major General Brown with the greatest part of his force has undertaken the March to Sackett's harbour (perhaps expecting to be met by Commodore Chauncey on his way).—Major General Izard's Army remains on this frontier and is it is said to be put into Winter Quarters at Black Rock, Buffalo, Williamsville (11 Mile Creek) and Battavia, leaving a sufficient Garrison in Fort Erie.

The weather has been so bad, and my information so defective that I have thought it inexpedient to harrass the troops by any forward movement towards the Enemy at Fort Erie—Indeed I have considered it to be more politic to allow

all alarm of attack to subside and I am persuaded the acquisition of Fort Erie will not be found difficult whenever the proper moment for attacking it shall arrive—I shall leave full instructions with Major General Stovin on this subject.—I enclose Copy of a District General Order which I have this day issued to this Division, and I am persuaded Your Excellency will concur in the tribute of applause which is therein paid to the troops and Departments.—No material change has taken place in the quarters of the Corps since my last—Our advance is at Black Creek with Pickets and Patrols beyond it.—We are busily employed in completing the defence of the mouth of the Chippawa and in preparing cover for the Troops destined to remain on this frontier during the winter.—In these labours the greatest benefit would have been derived from the aid of the Company of Sappers and Miners which Captain Payne states to be unemployed at La Colle and which on this frontier would be a treasure—The distribution of the Corps will probably be as follows: the 6th Chippawa, 82nd Lundy's Lane and Stamford, 90th Queenston, and the remaining Corps in the Forts, 37th at Burlington and Longpoint.—The Report of Parties of the Enemy advancing from the Westward and the Mouth of the Grand River, has proved as I expected, a false alarm, raised by Indians of the Five Nations whom I have directed Captain Norton to use his best endeavours to discover.—

I have offered a reward of Two hundred pounds, for the apprehension and conviction of the murderers of Captain Francis.

Continuing, on more mature consideration impressed with the difficulty and indeed impracticability of any attempt to effect any thing at the present season towards carrying Your Excellency's wishes and Instructions into effect with regard to the formation of a Naval Establishment on Lake Huron, I propose detaching Captain Payne (on the arrival of the Squadron) in concert with some intelligent Naval Officer, to

examine and report upon the advantages which the neighbourhood of Turkey Point may be found to offer for such an Establishment.—With the aid of a considerable Detachment of the 37th Regiment, which I propose stationing at that place much might I think be done towards a respectable work *there* even before the close of the present Season—and the Winter would be no interruption to the labours of the Ship Wright—

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Excellency's
most Obedient
humble Servant,
GORDON DRUMMOND
Lt General

Archives, C. 686, p. 118.

Head Quarters Niagara Falls
30th October 1814

District General Order

No. 1.—Lieutenant General Drummond cannot quit the Head Quarters of the Right Division of the Army, without repeating to the gallant Troops of which it is composed the public expression of his thanks for their uniform good conduct during the operations of the late short but arduous campaign in which their eagerness to meet the Enemy without regard to disparity of numbers or advantages of Situation their patient endurance of labour and fatigue and of the inclemency of an extraordinary rigorous Season, are circumstances which have excited the Lieut. General's admiration and which he has not failed, faithfully to report to His Excellency the Commander of the Forces—

2—Major General's Stovin and De Watteville will be pleased to accept Lieut. General Drummonds grateful thanks for the able Assistance which they have afforded him—

3—To the different Departments of the Army Lieut. General Drummond feels himself called upon to Express his entire approbation of their exertions; and Colonel Myers the D^y Q^r M^r General; Lieut. Col. Harvey the D^y Adjutant General; P. Turquand Esq^r D^y Commissary General and D^r. Erly the Acting D^y. Inspector of Hospitals will accept the Lieut. General's best thanks and will convey them to the Officers of their respective Departments.

No. 4. The Services of the Artillery and Engineer Branches have been equally Meritorious and Major Phillott and Captain Romilly will communicate the Lieut. General's thanks to all under their respective Commands.

Lieut General Drummond is highly satisfied with the Assistance which has been afforded him by Captain Foster his Military Secretary and the Officers of his personal Staff.—

Lieut General Drummond proposes to transfer his Head Quarters to Kingston by the return of the Squadron—

J. Harvey
Lt Col. D. A. G.

Archives, C. 686, p. 130.

From Drummond at Fort George to Yeo at ——.

Copy Fort George, 4th November 1814

My dear Sir,

On my arrival here yesterday afternoon for the purpose of communicating with you, I found Major General Stovin expecting an answer to a letter which he had written to you relative to the disembarkation of the 37th Regiment and the embarkation of the 103rd Regiment at the *Head of the Lake*. The 37th has I find since been landed at this place, but I am still without any communication of your intentions relative to the bringing off the 103rd Regiment.

As soon as possible after my arrival I despatched the Deputy Quarter Master General Colonel Myers to wait on

you with a Statement of the number of troops which it was my wish to have sent down.—Unfortunately however, after persevering till near midnight he was obliged to return without having reached the S^{t} Lawrence—It was my intention to have gone on board your ship early this morning and I made my arrangement for this purpose, but was informed at day light that you had stood over towards York.—To this moment therefore I am without any communication with you except a note to Colonel Harvey dated 8 P.M. yesterday in which you state your willingness to receive 1100 Men on board the Squadron but are silent on the Subject of the Troops at Burlington—

Having communicated your Note to Captain Fisher the Senior Officer of the Navy here, who had previously stated that he was without Instructions relative to receiving Troops on board the Vessels, he has in consequence consented to take over to the Squadron at York a part of the 41st Regiment, and the remainder of the King's with a detachment of Artillery. The Vessels will proceed immediately, and you will I hope send part of them back as soon as possible in order to bring over the 9 p^{dr} Field Guns, Ammunition, Stores, and Provisions which you have I understand brought up for the Right Division, and to remove from hence the remainder of the 41st Regiment, and some invalids of different Corps—I have also most pointedly to request that you will detach to the 40 Mile Creek and to the Head of the Lake such Vessels of the Squadron as you may think proper to remove a large Depôt of sick from the former place and if possible the whole of the 103rd Regiment from the latter.—I consider it incumbent on me to State distinctly to you that there is neither means of covering or of feeding the number of troops at present on this frontier and that unless the two Regiments above mentioned (103rd and 41st) are received on board the Squadron, I must, (dreadful as the alternative will be at this Season of the Year) order them to attempt to march to Kingston.—

Having failed in the object of my visit to this place, I propose returning immediately to my Head Quarters at the Falls where I have several final arrangements to make.—I shall endeavour to be down here again in time to pass to York on the return of the Vessels, and from thence I shall gladly avail myself of your kind offer of a passage to Kingston.

With regard to the proposed Naval Establishment on Lake Huron, it is necessary that I should confer both with you and the Commissioner at York before any thing final can be decided on this Subject.

I beg to Suggest the expediency of one or more of the Small Vessels of the Squadron being left here for the Service of the Right Division of the Army—they may Winter at York—

I have the honor to be,
My dear Sir,
Your most obedient
humble Servant,
(Signed) G. Drummond
L[t] Gen[l]

Archives, C. 686, p. 121.

From Drummond at Falls of Niagara to Prevost at ——.

Head Quarters
Falls of Niagara
5 November 1814

Sir,

Since my last I have had the honor to receive Your Excellency's Letters of the 26[th], 27[th], 28[th], 29[th], and 31[st] and the Adjutant General's letter of the 29[th].

Referring as the point of most importance to those parts of your communications expressive of Your Excellency's wish that something should be attempted against the Enemy at Fort Erie, I have the honor to state, that having given the subject the most mature consideration I remain of the opinion that under actual circumstances it would not be prudent or

politic at present to undertake any operation which has for its object any direct attack upon Fort Erie: not prudent, because I do not think that it could be gained (at present) by a Coup de Main or by Surprize, and the State of the Roads and the entire destruction of the Bridges renders the movement of Artillery impracticable, and the lateness of the Season renders it highly inexpedient to expose Troops to its Severity, wholly unprovided as they are with Camp Equipage and totally Stript of all cover as is the Country in which they would have to act: not Politic because I think the Enemy will *very shortly* evacuate the place and save us the trouble of blowing up the works and the loss of men its acquisition would *now* cost us—and because I do not consider that he derives any decided advantage from the kind of occupation which he has of Fort Erie, nor am I of opinion that any impediment or embarrassment whatever will arise to the formation of our proposed Naval Establishment at Turkey point from the Enemy's occupation of Fort Erie. Impressed however, with the deference which I owe to Your Excellency's wishes and opinion I have no hesitation in sacrificing to it every consideration of Personal convenience—I shall accordingly forego my intention of returning to Kingston by the Squadron and continue here myself to the latest possible period of the Navigation in the hope of finding an opportunity of effecting the expulsion of the Enemy from the footing which he still holds on this frontier; an object which Your Excellency will be aware I must have at heart in equal degree with Your Excellency—But in looking to its attainment, I shall consider it to be my duty not to pay a price beyond what I consider to be its real value.—My own view is directed to the *Right* bank of the Niagara and not to Fort Erie, and with Naval cooperation, that is to say, the aid of a Body of Seamen with Boats, I should not despair, late as is the Season, of being able to effect the defeat and destruction of Izard's Army:—Without this cooperation however, it can not be

attempted.—In order to propose the cooperation to Sir James Yeo and to discuss with him and the Commissioner, and come to a final decision on the proposed Naval Establishment, I shall hold to my intention of going over to York, from whence I shall return to this frontier, unless the receipt of intelligence of the evacuation of Fort Erie, and the refusal of the Commodore to join in the proposed operations on the Right Bank of the Niagara should render my return unnecessary—

I enclose Copy of a Letter which I addressed to Commodore Sir James Yeo yesterday from Fort George where I had gone for the sole purpose of meeting and conferring with him—Your Excellency will perceive by it that after throwing the Troops hastily on Shore, Sir James has gone over to *York* with the 9 *pd^r Brigade*, the Ordnance, Provisions and other Stores which were embarked in the large Ships—I hope he will send them over to the Niagara by the Smaller vessels as they might almost as well have been left at Kingston as be landed at York.—

From York I shall have the honor of again communicating to Your Excellency any changes which may have taken place in the Situation of the Enemy and of my Plans in consequence, as well as of the result of our discussion relative to the proposed Naval Establishment of the Upper Lakes—As not a moment is to be lost in acting upon the decision which may be adopted, I have again to remind Your Excellency of the importance of sending up Capt^n Payne's Company of Sappers and Miners without the least delay.

About four hundred of the least effective of the 41^st Regiment, the Light Company of the King's, the remainder of Captain Holcroft's Company of Royal Artillery and some Invalids and Sick of different Corps have already been embarked—I am in hopes, from a Note just received from Sir James that I may succeed in getting away the 103^rd and the remainder of the 41^st—the latter Corps I regret to part with, because in the Spring it will I think be a very strong and

efficient Regiment—by the former I lose nothing but useless mouths—The aggregate reduction of our issues will be very considerable by this arrangement and the actual efficient numbers of the Division very little diminished.—Enough will I hope remain for any service which it may be found proper or practicable to undertake before the return of the Vessels from Kingston and far more than we could feed if left during the Winter.

The information relative to the murder of Captain Francis was sent to Your Excellency in order that a communication to the American Government might be grounded upon it—I do not see what advantage could arise from any communication on the subject with the Commanding General of their Troops in this Quarter who could only refer such communication to his Government—I have called upon Colonel Talbot for a more specific and explicit Statement which shall be forwarded when received.—

There is another subject of complaint to which it will be my Duty to call Your Excellency's notice relative to the conduct of the American Government, so soon as I procure the necessary information and documents—I allude to its violation of the condition of the convention for the Exchange of Prisoners of War in the instance of the 41st Regiment, and their Shameful and Cruel treatment of the Officers and Men of that Corps Prisoners of War in their hands, by marching them to one of the most unhealthy parts of their territory where they were suffered to linger in misery and want of every thing necessary to health and comfort—

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your Excellency's
Most Obedient
humble Servant,
GORDON DRUMMOND
Lt General

Memorandum

Lieutenant H. B. Everest of the 6th Regt is the Officer who has been appointed by me to succeed Lieut Moorsom as Deputy Assistant in the Adjutant General's Department in this Command, to be attached to the Office of the Deputy Adjutant General—I wish this appointment to be dated from 25th ultimo.

8 P.M.

P.S.—I have deferred sending off my letter of this morning until the return of an Officer of the Glengary Light Infantry who had been detached toward Fort Erie in consequence of a suspicion that the Enemy was evacuating that place—Capt FitzGibbon the officer alluded to has this moment arrived at my Head Quarters with the full confirmation of this rumour—The Enemy evacuated Fort Erie early this forenoon, having first blown up the works and in every other respect completely dismantled and destroyed the place—an event on which I offer Your Excellency my Sincere congratulations—Captain FitzGibbon rode through every part of the place, in which the Enemy had left nothing but 10 or 12 Kegs of damaged Musket Ball Cartridge—

This unexpected event will make no change in my intentions of passing over to York to seek an interview with the Commander of His Majesty's Squadron—On the contrary I feel if possible more anxious than before to induce him to consent heartily to cooperate with this Division—in which case I think this frontier may be effectually cleared of the Enemy.

I cannot conclude this Postscript without observing that the Wanton Outrage, Robberies and excesses lately committed by the Enemy's Army on this frontier demands a Severe retaliation, and I would recommend to Your Excellency to make the necessary Communications to Sir Alexander Cochran on the subject, unless you would prefer that it

should be inflicted on the opposite frontier, a Service which I consider this Division is perfectly equal at any time effectually to perform—

G. D.

Archives, C. 686, p. 134.

From Drummond at Niagara Falls to Prevost at ——.

Niagara Falls
5th Novr 1814

Sir/

My Official despatch of this date will inform Your Excellency the Enemy evacuated Fort Erie this forenoon, and crossed over the remainder of his Force to Black Rock.

In consequence of this circumstance and in justice to myself and family I am induced once more to bring before Your Excellency the subject of my letter of the 23rd Ulto.

If for a moment I had thought Your Excellency could have found any difficulty in complying with my request after the statement, I did myself the honor of transmitting to you, I should not hesitate to have requested permission to resign my Appointment on the Staff. I beg the favour of Your Excellency's answer addressed to me at Kingston.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your Excellency's
Most Obedient
Humble Servant
Gordon Drummond
Lt General

Archives, C. 686, p. 144.

From Drummond to Prevost.

H.M. Ship S^{t} Lawrence
Off the Ducks 9th November
1814

Sir,

Having proceeded to Niagara on the morning of the 6th I immediately embarked on board the Montreal and reached the S^{t} Lawrence at her anchorage at York early the following morning. Commodore Sir James Yeo gave an immediate and decided negative to my proposition relative to cooperating in operations on the right Bank of the Niagara. He grounded his objection on the lateness of the Season, the uncertainty of the weather and the danger which might arise to the Squadron from that cause as well as from the Enemy if left for any considerable Period at its anchorage at York—I did not because I saw it was in vain to urge the matter.—It remained therefore to close up the more important Point of the properest Situation for the proposed Naval Establishment for the Upper Lakes—For this purpose I proceeded on shore with the Commodore and the Naval Commissioner and Captain Payne whom I had brought over from Niagara for the purpose, and having heard the opinion of the Surveyor General Major Wilmot the Ass^{t} Comm^{y} General M^{r} Crookshanks and other well informed Persons, at York it was decidedly and unanimously agreed that the obstacles in the way of such an establishment on Lake Huron at Penitangashene Bay at this Season of the year are not only insurmountable but even if it were possible to overcome them that a Naval Establishment on that Lake would by no means offer the same advantages with one on Lake Erie, the formation of which at Turkey Point is to be effected with far less difficulty and risque than at any point on Lake Huron.—By gaining the

Naval superiority on Lake Erie that of Lake Huron follows—but the Proposition cannot be reversed.—

Sir James required from me an assurance that the establishment should be protected by the Army a Promise which I have willingly given and have accordingly instructed M General Stovin to detach one Wing of the 37th Regt one Troop 19th Dragoons and two Six Pounders without delay to Long Point and in the event of the Enemy's attention being drawn to that Point and of its being threatened with a vessel from him, not only to reinforce this Wing by the remaining Companies of the Regiment but to continue to strengthen that Post according as circumstances may render necessary.

Keeping in view the desire which Your Excy has manifested on the subject of some Naval establishment being formed on Lake *Huron*, I have directed Mr Crookshank to cause a road to be opened from Kempenfelt Bay to Penitangashene (all that can at present be effected) with a view to open a better communication than we at present possess with the Shores of Lake Huron and particularly with our two newly acquired Schooners on that Lake.

Major Cockburn with the Company of Canadian Fencibles & Captain Payne R Engr will proceed to Turkey Point without delay.—I must take this occasion of observing however that Captain Payne has been sent up not only without any part of his Personal Baggage (or his Instruments) but without the Men of his Company whose Services on the duty on which he has been detached would have been invaluable and are in fact indispensible and I have therefore to beg they may be sent up by the quickest possible mode of conveyance.

Sir James Yeo has consented to detach the Niagara fitted with every thing which may be most useful for the new Establishment. Captain Collier a most active and zealous officer and who moreover is destined to command on Lake Erie is also to land and to proceed to Turkey Point with the whole

of the Crew of that Ship (Niagara) after laying her up at York, to superintend and assist in the works.—Captain Payne is ordered to trace out a work (on a site to be determined by that which the Naval Commissioner will designate for the future Dock Yard) capable of containing 1000 Men, and to commence this work with such means as we can collect for him, without a moments delay. Your Excellency will see the importance therefore of sending up to Captain Payne his Company of Sappers and Miners. The Naval Commissioner has come down in the Squadron for the purpose of making some necessary arrangements but will return in the Niagara.

We had scarcely discussed this Point and taken the necessary consequent measures when a communication of which the enclosed is a Copy was brought to me by an Express from Kingston—It decided the Commodore *instantly* to return to this Place without waiting for the small Vesels which had been detached to Burlington to bring away the 103rd Regiment—The Embarkation of that Reg^{t}. has however I fear been delayed if not wholly prevented by a circumstance which I have not yet had an opportunity of reporting to Your Excellency nor indeed am I at this moment in possession of any satisfactory information on the subject.—On the morning of the 6th I received a Report, Copy of which is enclosed, from L^{t} Colonel Smelt 103rd Reg^{t} Comg at Burlington. I lost no time in detaching the 37th Reg^{t} with two 6 and the remaining Troop of the 19th Drg^{s} and directed M General De Watteville to proceed and assume the direction of the whole. As the M General probably would not reach Burlington, in the present state of the roads, sooner than the evening of the 7th and as I sailed from York *yesterday* Evening (8th) I have had no further report, L^{t} Col: Smelt having most unaccountably omitted to communicate with the Commanding Officer of the Port of York relative to the advance of the Enemy. That the next report will contain the account of the rapid retreat of the Plundering Party (for

such I conclude it to be) I have no doubt—No time however shall be lost in forwarding any further information which I may receive.

Previous to quitting York I directed a communication to be made to the Indians in Council on the subject of the very gratifying information contained in Your Excellency's Letter and its enclosure of the 31st Ultimo.

I have the honor to be
Your Excellency's
Most obedient
Humble Servant
GORDON DRUMMOND
Lt General

Kingston Thursday Morning
10th November—

P.S.—

The Squadron Anchored off the Nine Mile Point last night—I have just landed and find M General Robinson in possession of no information subsequent to that contained in his Letter of the 4th Inst. I do not therefore consider it necessary to detain the Troops here which the Squadron has brought down vizt the 41st Regt the Light Company of the Kings and about 130 Convalescents and Sick of the 103rd Regt.

Finding that the Express which conveyed my Letter to Your Exy of the 5th Inst has not yet passed through this Place I have great satisfaction in acquainting Your Exy that the principal object of that Letter was to report that the Enemy evacuated Fort Erie on the morning of that day (5th) and retreated precipitately to his own Shores after blowing up the works and destroying the Place.

Having just observed in a late Quebec Paper the arrival at that Place of a considerable Detachment of R Artillery *Drivers*—I lose no time in requesting Your Exy to spare

as large a Proportion of this valuable description of Men as may be possible for the *Right* Division in order to relieve the Boys of the different Reg^{ts} who are wholly unequal to that *Laborious* and important duty. G. D.

Archives, C. 686, p. 206.

From Drummond at Kingston to Prevost at ——.

Kingston 14th Dec^{r} 1814

Sir,

From the strong manner in which I have felt it due to L^{t} Colonel Harvey, to mention him in my Dispatches of the 27th July, expressive of the high opinion of his Services and merits, both in that Action, and in all the Actions which have taken place in Upper Canada since the period of his arrival in the Province. I had entertained a hope (notwithstanding I had not in consequence of the rank he held ventured to include his name among the Officers distinctly recommended for promotion) yet, that His Royal Highness the Commander in Chief might have been induced to recommend him for some mark of favour ; not having however observed that his Services have attracted the favourable notice of His Royal Highness—I think it but just to take the liberty of again stating this, and I cannot doubt that Your Excellency will willingly forward my wishes by transmitting this letter with such observations relative to L^{t} Colonel Harvey's services in British North America as Your Excell^{y} may think they merit—

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your Excellency's
Most Obedient
Humble Servant
GORDON DRUMMOND
L^{t} General

NARRATIVE DOCUMENTS

GROUP X (*continued*)

OPERATIONS ON THE FRONTIERS, 1814

The West: 12. Prairie du Chien, July 17, 1814.

Archives, C. 678, p. 157.

Letter from La Feuille, the Principal War Chief of the Sioux Nation of Indians, to Cap^n^ Roberts.

Copy/ Prairie du Chien
Feb^y^ 5^th^ 1813

My Father/

As a Cloud is appearing over the heads of thy Children whom thou hast put under my care, and that the Americans mean to take possession of this piece of land.

I would wish to clear it, but I want help—The Whites send you knews—come and assist me as soon as possible.—I have talked with the Saques, Outagamies, Ouinebagoes, and we have all but one heart—

Thy Friend
(Signed) La Feuille his × mark

Witness
(Signed) J. Fraser
„ Fran. M. Dease

A true Copy
John Lambton Ens^n^
10^th^ R. V. Battn.

Directed to the Commandant of
Fort Michilimackinac

Archives, C. 678, p. 160.

Letter from the principal Inhabitants of Prairie du Chien to Cap^n Roberts.

Copy/ Prairie du Chien
10^th^ Feb^y^ 1813

Sir,

As it appears you desired M^r^ Rolette, in case any thing of importance should happen relative to the British Governm^t^ to give you notice of it, and as no opportunity offers, We the undersigned, residing at La Prairie du Chien, being British Subjects, believe it to be our duty to give you the following information :—

Inclosed you have a letter of Boiloin, Indian Agent, for the Americans, as also a talk from him to the Ouenibagoes and other Nations.—There is no necessity of pointing out to you their intentions for you will perceive them.—The Sioux, Saques, Outagamies and Ouenibagoes who are returned from Washington, have given us the same information, as also something more—

It is with pleasure we inform you that the Sentiments of these Indians, altho' they have received large presents, are not altered, especially the Saques of whom we were suspicious—They held a talk here and we sent for La Feuille First Sioux Chief to know their Sentiments, and it is at their instigation that we have taken the present Steps.—

The public talk of all these nations was for the purpose of joining themselves to oppose the Americans and prevent their coming up to this place, being convinced that their and their children's lives depend upon it—They do not want good will, but powder and Arms are what they are in need of, and a person to represent the British Government

As you cannot have a perfect knowledge of this country, and of what importance the preservation of this post is, (being

the centre of all the Indian Nations above mentioned) we refer you to M^r^ D. Grahame, the bearer of the present, who is well known at Mackinac, for all further particulars.

It remains to be observed that the Indians form about Five thousand men, and we join with them to beg You will do Your possible to succour us, being persuaded that the British Government is not accustomed to suffer its Subjects here, to the Amount of about 200, to perish.

We ourselves will do our possible to repel them, waiting for such succours ; but we wish to know if we shall be justifiable in doing it, and if we may take the powder the Merchants have here,—waiting for your assistance, which if you do not give the Indians will be obliged to throw themselves at the Feet of those people they detest so much, for powder and other necessaries, without which they cannot exist, and for the obtaining of which they will be obliged to Sacrifice every British Subject—Then the *English influence* Adieu ! among the Nations of the Mississippi—As we are well assured of your zeal for every thing that is British, we beg of you, if you are resolved to succour us, not to delay—One day, one hour is of consequence ! In conclusion we assure you that we are devoted to the British Cause, and are respectfully,

Your most Obedient Servants

Jo^s^. Rolette	Harry Munro Fisher
M. Burbois	J^n^ Farebault
J. B^te^ Berthelot	Denis Courtois
S^t^ Jean det La Perche	J. B^te^ Maynard
Fran. M. Dease	Bazille Izard
Duncan Graham	F. Burke
James Fraser	F. Boutheillier

A true Copy
(Signed) John Lambton Ens^n^
10^th^ R. V. Batt^n^

Archives, C. 685, p. 62.

From McDouall at Michilimackinac to Drummond at ——.

Michilimackinac 16 July 1814

Sir,

I beg leave to acquaint you that on the 21st Ult. I received information of the Capture of the Prarie des Chiens on the Mississippi by the American Gen[l] Clarke who had advanced from S[t] Louis with six or eight very large Boats with about three hundred men for the purpose of establishing himself at that Post by building a Fort the situation being very eligible for that purpose.—As the greater part of my Indian Force was from the countries adjoining La prairie des Chiens, they felt themselves not a little uneasy at the proximity of the enemy to their defenceless families, but on the arrival next day of the Susell or tete de Chien, a distinguished Chief of the Winebago Nation (who came to supplicate assistance) & on his mentioning the circumstances of its Capture, particularly the deliberate & barbarous murder of seven Men of his own Nation, the sentiment of indignation & desire of revenge was universal amongst them ; all were bent upon returning for the deliverance of their Wives & Children, & to drive from their Country these unprincipled Invaders whose appetite for encroachment grows by what it feeds upon & can never be satisfied.

I saw at Once the imperious necessity which existed of endeavouring by every means to dislodge the American Gen[l] from his new conquest, & make him relinquish the immense tract of Country he had seized upon in consequence & which brought him into the very heart of that occupied by our friendly Indians. There was no alternative it must either be done or there was an end to our connexion with the Indians, for if allowed to settle themselves in that place, by dint of threats, bribes, & sowing divisions among them, tribe after

tribe would be gained over or subdued, & thus would be destroyed the only barrier which protects the Great trading establishments of the North West & the Hudsons Bay Companys. Nothing could then prevent the Enemy from gaining the Source of the Missisippi, gradually extending themselves by the Red River to Lake Winnipic from Whence the descent of Nelsons River to York Fort would in time be easy. The total subjugation of the Indians on the Missisippi would either lead to their extermination by the enemy or they would be spared on the express condition of assisting them to expel us from Upper Canada.—Viewing the subject in this light I determined to part with the Sioux & Winebago Indians to give them every encouragement & assistance, & even to weaken ourselves here, rather than the enterprize should not succeed.—I appointed M^{r} Rolette & M^{r} Anderson & M^{r} Grignion of Green Bay to be Capt^{s} of Volunteers the two former raised 63 Men in two days, whom I completed armed & clothed, the latter takes with him all the settlers of Green Bay—

I held several Councils with the Indians on this important business—The Solemn & impressive eloquence of the tète de Chien, excited a general enthusiasm, & never was more zeal or unanimity Shewn amongst them, this Chief is scarcely inferior to Tecumseth, & I doubt not will act a distinguished part in the Campaign : he was particularly urgent with me for two favors—the first—one of their Fathers Officers to Command the Expedition—the second one of their Fathers big guns to strike terror into their enemys—the latter request had been repeatedly made by most of the Indian Chiefs ; & I agreed to let them have the three pounder I brought from York, chiefly from the novelty of the thing among the Indians, & the effect it will have in augumenting their numbers, I attached to it a Bombadier of the Royal Artillery—& a Serg^{t}-Corporal & twelve smart fellows of the Michigan Fencibles —I next appointed Maj^{r} M^{c}Kay to command the whole,

with the local rank of Lieu[t] Col[l], & in thus acceeding to both their requests the Chiefs told me they had not a wish ungratified—that they & their young Men would die in defence of their Gun, but as to M[c]Kay they had not words to express the fulness of their delight & Satisfaction; he is certainly well qualified for the task he has undertaken, being determined yet conciliatory well acquainted with the language & mode of managing the Indians, & familiar with the place intended to be attacked.—Every thing being prepared L[t] Col[l] M[c]Kay sailed under a Salute from the Garrison, on the 28[th] Ult[o], taking from this place 75 of the Michigan Fencibles & Canadian Volunteers, & about 136 Indians—he arrived at Green Bay about six days after, at which place such was the zeal displayed, that his force was immediately doubled, but as every arrangement had been made previous to his departure for the junction of the Winebagos & the Fallsovine [*sic*] Indians at the portage of the Onisconsing [*sic*] River, I have scarcely a doubt but that his force at that place will be at least 1,500 Men, besides being afterwards joined by the Sioux from River S[t] Peters & other tribes.

Upon the whole this rapid advance of Gen[l] Clark's upon the Missisippi, may ultimately prove a lucky circumstance, it has already tended to unite the Indians in the common cause, & tribes who before have cherished an hereditary enmity for nearly centuries have on this occasion forgot their ancient feuds, & vie with each other who shall be foremost in chastising the merciless invaders of their Country:—the horrible cruelties which the enemy in their late operations have been guilty of, has roused such a spirit of vengeance amongst them that I am apprehensive if they do not effect their escape, neither the Gen[l] nor his Troops stand much chance of being able to recount the tragic particulars that will ensue.—This Ruffian on taking the Prairie des Chiens, captured eight Indians of the Winebago Nation—they cajoled them at first with affected kindness—set provision

before them—& in the act of eating treacherously fell upon them & murdered seven in cold blood—the eighth escaped to be the sad historian, of their horrible fate !—The tete de Chien has told me this Story, unable to support his indignation at their being butchered like so many dogs.——An event has happened since of so aggravated a Nature, as must awaken in the breast of apathy itself, every latent quality of revenge & shut the gates of mercy upon these relentless Assassins.—Col. M^{c}Kay writes me that Gen^{l}. Clarke invited, & by much promises of Friendship got hold of four more of the Winebagoes—he shut them up in a log house, & afterwards shot them thro' between the logs.—one of them was the Brother of the Susell or tete de Chien ! Another Victim was the Wife of *Le Feuille*, the first Chief of the Sioux, who was with me here—after a recital of these Atrocities it is scarcely necessary to ask, if the enemy are likely to meet with mercy, but do they deserve it ?

By this time Col^{l} M^{c}Kay is near his destination—*if successful* & the *thing is practicable*, I have directed him to descend the Missisippi & also to attack the Piarias Fort on the Illinois River—

(Signed)
R^{o} M^{c}Douall
L^{t} Col^{l} Com^{g}

Archives, C. 685, p. 161.

From Drummond at Fort Erie to Prevost at ——.

Camp before Fort Erie—
Aug 31st 1814.

Sir,

I have the honor to enclose herewith two Despatches from Lieutenant Colonel M^{c}Kay, of the Canadian Militia, to Lieutenant Colonel Macdouall, Commanding at Michili-

mackinac, detailing the operations of the Force, under his Orders, against the Enemy's Position at La Prairie des Chiens.—

The conduct of Lieutenant Colonel M^c^Kay, and the Troops accompanying him, appears to be most highly deserving of commendation.—

These Despatches I transmit to Your Excellency at the request of Lieutenant Colonel Macdouall.—

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your Excellency's
Most Obedient,
humble Servant,
GORDON DRUMMOND
L^t^ General

Archives, C. 695A.

Enclosure. From McKay at Prairie du Chien to McDouall at Michilimackinac.

Prairie du Chien Fort M^c^Kay July 27^th^ 1814

L^t^ Colonel R. M^c^Douall—Commanding Michilimackinac and its Dependancies &^ca^ &^ca^

Sir,

I have the honor to communicate to you that on my arrival here the 17^th^ inst at 12 O'Clock, my force amounting to 650 men of which 120 were Michigan Fencibles Canadian Volunteers and Officers of the indian department the remainder were indians that proved to be perfectly useless I found that the Enemy had a small Fort situated on a small hill immediately behind the Village with two Block Houses perfectly safe from indians and that they had six pieces Cannon and sixty or seventy effective Men Officers included; That lying at anchor in the Middle of the Mississipie immediately in front of the Fort a very large Gun Boat, call'd

"Governor Clark, Gun Boat No. 1." she mounts 14 pieces Cannon some six, three and a number of *Cohorns* is manned with 70 or 80 men with fire arms and measures 70 feet Keel, this floating Block house is so constructed that she can be rowed in any direction the men on board being perfectly safe from Small arms while they can use theirs own to the greatest advantage, she goes remarkably fast particularly down the currant being rowed by 32 Oars—

At half past 12 O'Clock I sent Capt[n]. Anderson with a Flag of Truce to invite them to surrender which they refused, my intention was not to have made an attack till next morning at day light, but it being impossible to controle the indians, I ordered our Gun to play upon the Gun Boat which she did with a Surprising good effect for in the course of three Hours the time the Action lasted she fired 86 rounds, two thirds of which went into, *Governor Clark*, they kept up a Constant fire upon us both from the Boat and Fort we were about an hour between two fires having run our Gun up within Musket Shott of the Fort, from whence we beat the Boat out of her Station She cut her Cable and run down the Currant and Sheltered under an Island—We were obliged to disest it being impossible with our little Barges to attempt to board her and Our only Gun in pursuit of her would have exposed our whole Camp to the Enemy She therefore made her Escape—

I immediately sent off a Canoe with three men an Ioway that came from M[c]Kinac with me and two of Six Sauks that joined me in the Fox river, I gave them four Kegs Gun Powder and ordered them to pass the Gun Boat and get as soon as possible to the Rapids at the Rock River, where it is generally believed the Gun Boat will run aground, and have all the Sauks assembled to annoy the men and prevent their debarking to get firewood &c— The Next Morning I dispatched two Boats under Capt[n] Grignon with one Officer & 26 Men to go in pursuit of her and Observe her

motions—they fell in with her the day after leaving this but having only Small Arms could do her no injury. Capt[n] Grignon Summonsed her to Surrender to no purpose, he however followed her up till within a league of the Rapids, when they met another of the Enemies, Gun Boats, Tho' Smaller arranged in the same Manner as *Governor Clark*, the wind favoring her she made after our Boats but could not overtake them She in a Short time threw her Anchor and Capt[n] Grignon very improperly made the best of his way here. Since when I have had no news from there, notwithstanding I have dispatched Canoes almost daily ever since—On the Nineteenth finding there was Only Six rounds round Shott remaining including three of the Enemies we had picked up the day was imployed in making lead Bullets for the Gun and throwing up two Breast-works One within 700 yards and the other within 450 yards of the Fort At Six in the Evening every thing being prepared I Marched to the first breast work, from whence I intended to throw in, the six remaining Rounds, iron Ball, Red Hot into the Fort in order to set it on fire the only apparent resourse, at the moment the first Ball was about being put into the Cannon—at white Flag was put out at the Fort and immediately an Officer came down with a note and Surrendered—It being now too late I difered making them dilivir up their Arms in form till Morning but immediately placed a Strong guarde in the Fort and took possession of the Artilery—From the time of our Landing till they Surrendered the indians Kept up a Constant but perfectly useless Fire upon the Fort the distances from where they fired was too great to do exicution even had the enemy been exposed to view—

I am happy to inform that notwithstanding every Man in the Michigan Fencibles Canadian Volunteers and Officers in the indian department behaved as well as I Could possibly wish and tho' in the midst of a hot fire not a man was even

wounded except three indians that is one Puant one Follavoine & one Sioux all Severely but not dangerously—

I beg you will excuse my not having it in my power to give you a full Account of the things taken in the Fort. For a Man having to do with indians in my present Situation is more tormented than if in the infernal regions—One Lieut. 24th U.S. Rgt. 1 Militia Captn 1 Militia Lieut. 3 Sergts. 3 Corporals 2 Musicians 53 privates 1 Commissary 1 Interpretter, 2 Women and 1 Child—1 Iron Six pounder Mounted on Garrison Carriage 1 Iron three Pounder on Field Carriage 3 Swivels 61 Stand Arms 4 Swords 1 field Carriage for Six Pounder and a goodeal of Amunition 28 Barrels Pork and 46 Barrels Flour, These are the principal Articles found in the Fort when Surrender'd—

I will now take the liberty to request your particular attention to Captns Rolete and Anderson the former for his Activity in many instances but particularly dureing the Action, the Action having Commenced unexpectedly he run down from the upper end of the Village with his Compy thro' the heat of the fire to receive Orders, and before and since in being instrumental in preserving the Citizens being quite ruined by pillaging indians—and the latter for his unwearied attention in keeping every thing in order during the rout and his Activity in following up the Cannon during the Action and assisting in Transporting the Amunition—Lieut. Porlier of Capt Andersons Compy Lieuts. Graham and Brisbois of the indian department Captn Dease of the Prairie du Chien Militia and Lieut. Powell of the Green Bay all acted with that Courage and Activity, so becoming Canadian Militia or Volunteers, the Interpretters also behaved well but particularly Mr St Germain from the Sant St Marie and Mr Renvile, Sioux interpretter they absolutely prevented their indians Commiting any outrages in the Plundering way—Commissary Honoré who acted Lieut. in Captn Roletts Compy whose singular activity in saveing

and Keeping and exact account of provisions surprised me and without which we must unavoidably have lost much of that essential article—The Michigan Fencibles who Manned the Gun behaved with great Courage Coolness and Regularity. As to the Serg[t] of Artillery too much cannot be Said of him for the fate of the day and our Successes are to be attributed in a great measure to his Courage and well managed fireing—

I am sorry to be under the necessity of reproaching some of the indians but Puants particularly for shameful depridations committed dureing the Action on the 17[th] and Since—many of them (puants) in place of meeting the Enemy, immediately on their arrival run off to the farms kill'd the inhabitants Cattle and pillaged their Houses even to the Covering off their Beds and leaving many without a Second Shirt to put on their backs—Even in the Village they did the same outrages breaking to pieces what they Could not Carry away, This prevented the Militia joining me being absolutely obliged to keep guard over ther Houses &[a]—

The Sioux Soteux Court Oreills & Part of the Follavoines tho' perfectly useless obeyed my Orders pretty well, but the Puants behaved in a most Villanous manner and was I permitted to deside their fate they Should never receive a Shillings worth of presents from Government on the Contrary I would Cut them off to a man, they dispise the idea of receiving Orders from an Officer that [does] not hold a Blanket in one hand and a peice of Pork in the other to pay them to listen to what he may have to say—Audaciously saying they are under no Obligations to us but they have themselves preserved the Country—The moment they had finished pillaging and got their Share of the prise they marched off except about ten men who are this instant in the Act of Cuting up the green wheat which if they do not disist I shall be obliged to Confine them to the Fort not only for the good of the Citizens but for our own Safety as Provisions will be very Scarce till after Harvest—

Since the Surrender of the Fort and the departure of the puants, the Inhabitants have all come forward and taken the Oath of Allegiance and are now doing duty on patrole or otherwise as required—

As to going down the Mississipie and Returning by the way of Chicago as was Originally intended is now rendered impracticable for the present—No dependance whatever to be placed in the indians except the Sioux the Others haveing abandoned me immidiately on the receipt of their Share of the prise, my trifling force of Volunteers Cannot warrant any thing Honorable by Making that tour—

I beg leave to remark that in Case the intention is to retain this place a reinforcement of Fifty Regular Troops would be necessary, a quantity of Amunition agreable to a list herewith, for the Guns, and Pork for their provisions as to Flour plenty of that Article Can be procured here in a Month and a [half] from this, My reason for making this remark is that My desided Openion is that from this to the fall an Attack may undoubtedly be looked for from below and if four or five of these Floating Blockhouses come up armed as *Governor Clark* was our present force is Certainly not equal to prevent their repulsing us unless more particularly favored by providence than before.

As soon as I can get certain information of the Enemies Situation and if I find they are fortifying themselves any where from this to Fort Madison I will go down and try & dislodge them. But if I am well convinced there is no danger by leaving this, I will as soon as such news may be assertained, return to M^{c}Kinac. But not Otherwise—

It was with much difficulty I preserved the prisinors from the Puants, but having made use of Supplications then threats &^{ca} till at length they became less Violent and at last by keeping a Strong guarde over them the indians went off doing them no injury—

My intention was to have kept the prisinors here till

I got certain information from below and if the Enemy came here and fired a Single Shott to have sacrificed them to the indians—But I am Sorry that Circumstances obliges me absolutely to send them to S^{t} Louis, by keeping them here any longer would Cut me quite Short of provisions and, as to sending in to M^{c}Kinac, a Sufficient force to guarde them would leave me quite distitute of resourses in case of an attempt from below. I have therefore diterminded to send them off tomorrow Morning and let them take their risk under a Small guarde—The Enemy had three Men wounded in the Fort two severely but not dangerously the Other Slightly and, report says five men were kill'd and 10 Wounded in the Gun Boat but more surely must have been Kill'd and wounded from the great number of men on board and the number of Shotts that went into her—I take the liberty to refer you to Robert Dickson Esquire for his Openion respecting my information of the Puants—

Report says that 400 Cavalry are about this time to leave S^{t} Louis for here, if so, they will give us Our hands full—

I send this by indian Express to the Green Bay, from whence I have directed M^{r} Porlier to send off a [Canoe] to M^{c}Kinac—I adopt this method being the Shortest rout, from here by land the indians will reach the Bay in four days and four from that to M^{c}Kinac which is the shortest passage that can possibly be expected—

My Force here at present amounts to about 3 Hundred strong that is 200 Michigans Volunteers & Militia and 100 Sioux Soteux Court Oriells & Puants.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your Most Obedient
Humble Servant
W. M^{c}Kay
L^{t} Col. Comg

Supplement

After my dispatches were gone about ten minutes A few Sauks arrived from the Rapids at the Rock River with two, Canadians and bring the following information—On the 21st instant Six American Barges three of which were Armed, were comeing up and Camped in the Rapids that Night; that in the course of the Night, The Party of Indians having the four Kegs Gun Powder I sent from this on 17th reached them—The Barges being Camped at short distances from each Other they on the 22d early in the morning Attacked the lower they Kill'd about One hundred persons took five peices Cannon burnt the Barge and, the other Barges seeing this disaster and knowing there were British Troops here run off—This is perhaps one of the most briliant Actions faught by indians only since the Commencement of the war—I think now there is little danger here for the present, but I have not the Smallest doubt but an attempt will be made either this fall or early in the Spring—I will send off Tomorrow for the Cannon the size cannot be propperly assertained but from the description the indians give there are 2 three Pounders and 3 Morters—the Sauks, Renards and Kikapoos were engaged in this Action, they lost 2 Men & one Woman kill'd—to give an idea how disperate the indians were, the women even jumped on board with their Hoes &ca, some breaking heads, others breaking casks, some trying to cut Holes in her bottom to sink her, and others setting fire to her Decks—As one of the Barges was making from Shore the Ioway that came from McKinac with me, jumped on her deck and with his Hatchet cut a hole, and fire his gun among the Americans in the boat—then plunged into the River and made his escape ashore—

Those indians came here for a Supply of Ammunition—I send them off tomorrow morning with ten Kegs Gun Powder and a few presents of Goods &ca—It is very fortunate

that I received your reinforcement of Gun Powder at the Bay, the demand for that article has been very great, as also for Tobacco but now both are nearly out—I shall now go to work and have the Fort &ca put in as good repair as Circumstances will admit.

I was taken very ill last evening with a swelling on the right Side of the Head and has kept me in a Violent fever ever since—I beleive it is what in Canada is generally call'd the *Mumps*—

I have the Honor to be
Your Very Obedient
and Hble Servt
W. McKay
Lt Col. Comg

Fort McKay 29th
July 1814

Archives, C. 685, p. 4.

Enclosure. From McKay at Old Fort Prairie Du Chien, to Perkins at Fort Shelby.

(Copy)

Old Fort Prairie du Chien
July 19th 1814—

Sir,

I will thank you to prolong the hour to march out of your Fort till Eight O'Clock tomorrow morning When you shall march Out with the Honors of War Parade before the Fort deliver up your Arms and put yourself under the protection of the Troops under my Command—

I am
Sir
Your Obdt Hble Servt
(Sig'd) Lt Col. Comdg Expedition
W. McKay

To
Capt Joseph Perkins
Commanding
Fort Shelby.

NARRATIVE DOCUMENTS

GROUP X (*continued*)

OPERATIONS ON THE FRONTIERS, 1814

The West: 13. Michillimackinac, August 4, 1814.

Archives, C. 682, p. 67.

From Drummond at Kingston to Prevost at ——.

Kingston, January 28th 1814

Sir,

I have the honor to acquaint Your Excellency, that I received a communication from Deputy Assistant Commissary General Crookshank, at York, on his return from Lake Simcoe, where he had been, to make arrangements for forwarding the supplies to Michilimackinac.—

He informs me, that, from the authority of several credible persons, and likewise from Mr Wilmot, the Surveyor, who had been employed in running the line, from Lake Simcoe, to Penitanguishan Bay, that it is impracticable to transport anything by that route, previous to a road being cut upwards of thirty miles in length; and that it was calculated to take 200 men for at least 3 weeks, before it could be made passable; and, in case of deep snow, it could not be done at all.—

In consequence of the delay, and difficulty, attending such a measure, Mr Crookshank has made arrangements for forwarding the supplies to *Nottawasaga* Bay, on Lake Huron, a distance only of 20 Miles from Penitanguishan

The opening of the road to the river, leading to Nottawasaga Bay, will take but 12 Men for about 10 days; and, in the course of a few days, as soon as a shed can be erected,

on the other side of Lake Simcoe, he will commence sending the Stores across it, should a thaw not prevent.—

As M^r^ Crookshank found it almost impossible to procure hands to build boats, and Altogether so, a person to contract for the whole, or even a part; I have had a communication with the Commissioner of the Navy here; who says he could furnish 30 workmen, with an able foreman; that would, to secure the measure being completed in a given time, contract, at once, for the building of as many as should be required.—And they could set out, from hence, at a day's notice, well furnished with Tools, Nails, Oakum, and every other requisite for the occasion.

This mode of proceeding would undoubtedly prove somewhat expensive; but I see no alternative.—

And, as there would be some check to the work upon the new Ships here, unless it was thought proper to send up an additional number of workmen, to supply the place of those thus otherwise to be employed, I have to request Your Excellency's instructions on this head, as soon as convenient.—

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Excellency's
most obedient,
humble Servant,
GORDON DRUMMOND
L^t^ General

P: S:

Since writing the foregoing, I have received a letter, from Lieutenant Colonel Bruyeres, from York, corroborating that part of M^r^ Crookshank's letter, relative to the impossibility of procuring persons there, to build the boats at Penitanguishan Bay; and asserting, that the only way this object can be accomplished is, by sending up builders, with the necessary materials of Pitch, Iron Work, &c, from Kingston.—

G. D.

Archives, C. 682, p. 231.

From Drummond at Kingston to Freer at Quebec.

Kingston. March 22d
1814.—

Sir,

I have the honor to enclose herewith for the information of His Excellency, The Commander of the Forces, a letter from Captain Bullock, Commanding at Michilimackinac, on the State of that Post, and it's vicinity.— 26th February 1814

As I have not retained a Copy of the enclosure, I request you will return it to me.—

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient
humble Servant
Gordon Drummond
Lt General

Archives, C. 682, p. 227.

From Bullock at Michilimackinac to Loring at York.

Copy

Fort Michilimackinac
26th February 1814

Sir/

I have the honor to Acknowledge Your Letter of the 12th Ulto: (Received on the Evening of the 23rd Instant) Acquainting Me by directions of Lieutenant General Drummond that a Quantity of Provisions had been sent to Notawasague Bay and a further Quantity was about to be sent to Penitanguishan Bay destined for this Post, which Provision we are much in Want of :

In Reply to the information required by the General, I am sorry to say that, our Resources here are very few, and in that, of the Article of Provisions almost Consumed ;—at the time I Received the Account of the Retreat of the Right Division from Amherstburgh, the Government Provision was nearly exhausted, there being but Sixty eight pounds of Salt Meat in Store, and Flour only Sufficient to Serve the Small Garrison for One Month :—Amherstburgh being the Depot from whence this Post had been always supplied, and the late Season of the Year rendiring any Supply from York very precarious—I immediately turned my Mind to find out what resources there were on the Island, and in it's vicinity, and I directed M^r^ Bailey of the Commissariat Department to proceed without loss of time to the Small Settlements in the Neighbourhood for that purpose, and to purchase every species of Provisions he could procure, both on the Island and places adjacent, which he did at most exorbitant prices, and on which we have been existing since October ;—the proportion of Animal Food purchased was so small that, I found it necessary on the 1^st^ November, to Reduce the Ration of Beef to half a pound per day, and since, on the 25^th^ December, to limit the issue of Meat to four days in the Week, at the above rate—so that the Troops &^c^. might have a small proportion of that Food as long as Possible—And which they will have until about the Middle of the ensuing Month—We must then have recourse to Indian Corn and Fish—of the latter We have been fortunately successful in obtaining a good Supply, and on which We must exist until Provisions can be sent us :—The Number of Boats &^c^ I can send to Notawasaque and Penitanguishan Bay in the ensuing Spring to Assist in bringing the Supplies &^c^ will be, 2 Batteaux, 2 large Birch Canoes, and a Keel Boat :—There is no Clothing of any description in Store, and I send herewith Returns of what is Wanted—also a State of the Garrison and a Nominal List of Officers—The

Men have been paid to the 24th January except those on Command at the Island of St. Josephs and Green Bay.—The Number of Indians immediately about us are but few, not exceeding Forty—this being their Hunting Season, they are employed in that Avocation far back in the Woods;—I expect Numbers here early in the Spring—they appear to be well disposed towards us—Nor have I heard of any that have Attached themselves to the American Government,—except a few of the Saguinas, Residing at Saguina Bay on the South Side Lake Huron—about 150 Miles from hence.—I have not been able to obtain any information respecting the Enemy's Vessels, None of them appeared on Lake Huron last fall, Nor have I been able to collect any intelligence from Detroit, Notwithstanding I have offered a Considerable sum for that purpose:—I shall pay close Attention to the Works, Picketting &c of the Fort, and my exertions will not be wanted in keeping this Post in the best state of defence;—Please to inform General Drummond, that Robert Dickson Esqr. Agent and Superintendant to the Western Indians, writes me from Green Bay (on the West Side of Lake Michigan) that he intends being here as early as possible in the Spring with about Six hundred Warriors, and One hundred White People of every description—the Consumption of Provisions will of course be very Great, and should the People Arrive previous to the intended Supply I dread the Consequence.

I have the Honor to be
&c &c &c
Signed Richd. Bullock
Captain 41st Regt.

a True Copy
Noah Freer
Military Secretary

Archives, C. 1171, p. 250.

Adj^{t} G$^{l's}$ Office
H^{d} Q^{rs} Montreal 21st April
1814

G.O.

The Com^{r}. of the Forces deeming it expedient for the protection of Public Stores and the property of Individuals in Trade, about to proceed to Lake Huron & Lake Superior by the Grand River, that an escort of Indians Should Accompany the Canoes, His Excell^{y} is pleased to direct that the Superintendant of Indian Affairs will select a Detachm^{t}. of 40 Warriors properly armed with Active and intelligent Officers for this Service to be in readiness to leave La Chine on Monday Next.—

Archives, C. 683, p. 264.

From McDouall at Michilimackinac to Drummond at ——.

Copy/

Michilimackinac 26th May 1814

My dear General,

The Nancy being just under way, I refer you to my Letter to Col. Harvey for the particulars of our Voyage. I avail myself of the few minutes left me before she sails, to urge in the strongest terms, the necessity of M^{r} Crookshank being immediately directed to deposit for us at the mouth of the Nottawasaga River, another supply of provisions consisting of from three to four hundred Barrels of Flour and Pork; otherwise this place will soon be in danger from the want of that article, owing to the great issues to the Indians, which I have curtailed as much as possible, even at the risque of offending them. I also daily expect M^{r} Dickson,

with from three to four hundred more, which will encrease our issues to about 1600 p day. M^{r} Crookshank should be directed to send us

20 Stand of Arms, left at Lake Simcoe.
The Stocks and Clasps I ordered.
200 pairs more Shoes, & 400 more American Socks.
A Good supply of Leather to repair the others, there not being any here.
As much of the Flour and Pork should be in Bags as possible, to store in Canoes, as I may have no other means of getting them.
Ten Casks of Rum, of about 16 Gallons each.

No step has yet been taken to fit out the Nancy; her former Comm^{r} Cap^{t} M^{c}Intosh gave his opinion that she was not fit to cut down, or worth it, and I silently acquiesced in Lieu^{t} Poyntz's opinion, that even if fitted out, she could not shew herself before the force which the enemy could bring against her, because I derive more advantage from her guns on shore than I have any hope of doing from her being equipped with them.

I most heartily wish that Sir James again had the pertinacious Lieu^{t} that he unfortunately sent me, who, full of his own consequence, as Commanding on Lake Huron (Comm^{g} what ? not a vessel) and a great stickler for naval etiquette, is constantly disposed to cavil, and on the watch for opportunities in his naval capacity, to oppose what I wish. I have had on that account, much difficulty in getting the Nancy sent this trip. Indeed I should have sent the Gent^{n} back in her, only I could not well spare in our circumstances, the twenty Seamen, and they would not be willing to serve under a military officer. It is necessary that he should return, and that a deserving Midshipman, or some one *explicitly under my orders*, be sent out in his place, or that part of the service cannot go on.

Lieu[t] Poyntz told me on the passage, that he conceived he commanded *all afloat*, and of course the whole expedition, when we were in Batteaux. I shall state these matters by the Express Canoe to His Excellency—I have sent two Canoes to ascertain what they are doing at Detroit and the River S[t] Clair. Should they be establishing themselves at the latter place, uncountenanced by a Naval Force, it may be in our power to interrupt them, on M[r] Dickson's arrival, but, if well protected in that way, it would be a hazardous attempt, as our Batteaux may be destroyed, and our retreat cut off—

Believe me to be &c
(Signed) R[t] M[c]Douall

Archives, Q. 128–1, p. 229.

(*Transcript from the original in the Public Record Office, London.*)

From McDouall at Michillimackinac to Prevost at ——.

Copy

Michilimackinac
14[th] Aug[t] 1814

Sir

I have reported to Lieu[t] Gen[l] Drummond the particulars of the Attack made by the Enemy on this Post on the 4[th] Ins[t] —My situation was embarrassing.—I knew that they could land upwards of a Thousand Men, and after manning the Guns at the Forts I had only a disposable Force of One Hundred and Forty to meet them; which I determined to do in order as much as possible to encourage the Indians, and having the fullest confidence in the little detachment of the Royal Newfoundland Regt.—The position I took up was excellent but at an Unavoidable and too great a distance from the Forts, in each of which I was only able to leave Twenty five Militia-men, there were likewise Roads

upon my Flanks, every nick of which were known to the Enemy by means of the people formerly residents of this Island, which were with them. I could not afford to detach a man to guard them, and it is one of the great Misfortunes of having to do with Indians, and depending much upon them, that they will do as they like and in Action it is impossible to form any previous Judgment, whether they will behave well or ill, or are disposed to fight or not.

My position was rather too extensive for such a handful of men, the ground was commanding and in front Clear as I could wish it. On both our Flanks and Rear a thick Wood, my utmost wish was that the Indians would only prevent the Enemy from gaining the Woods upon our Flanks, which would have forced them upon the Open ground in our front ; a natural Breast Work protected my men from every shot, and I had told them that on the close approach of the Enemy they were to pour in a Volley, and immediately charge, numerous as they were, all were fully confident of the result ;—

On the Advance of the Enemy my 6 P^{r} and 3 P^{r} opened a heavy fire upon them, but not with the effect they should have had, being not well manned, and for want of an Artillery Officer, which would have been invaluable to us they moved slowly and cautiously declining to meet me on the open ground, but gradually gaining my left Flank which the Indians permitted even in the Woods, without firing a Shot. I was even obliged to weaken my small Front by detaching the Michigan Fencibles to oppose a Party of the Enemy which were Advancing to the Woods on my right—I now received Accounts from Major Crawford of the Militia, that the Enemy's two large Ships had anchored in the rear of my Left, and that Troops were moving by a Road in that direction towards the Forts—I therefore immediately moved to place myself between them and the Enemy, and took up, a position effectually covering them, from whence collecting the greater part of the Indians who had retired, and taking

with me Major Crawford and about 50 Militia, I again advanced to support a party of the Fallsovine Indians, who with their gallant Chief Thomas had commenced a spirited attack upon the Enemy, who in a short time lost their second in Command and several other Officers, seventeen which we counted dead upon the Field, besides what they carried off, and a considerable number wounded. The Enemy retired in the utmost haste and confusion followed by the Troops, 'till they found shelter under the very Broadside of their Ships anchored within a few yards of the shore—They re-embarked that Evening and the Vessels immediately hauled off.

Though the Enemy formidable as they were in numbers have made so very poor a business of their attack, yet still I must ever regret their not being more effectually punished, which would most assuredly have been the case, had not the Indians gradually disappeared, leaving both Flanks uncovered—The gallant Fallsovines with a few Winnebagoes, Chippawas and Ottawas certainly retrieved their Character.

I am now fully convinced of the great danger of depending upon these people for the defence of this Island—they are fickle as the wind, a most difficult task to keep them with us and tho' the American Commodore avowed to Major Crawford his intention of renewing his attack the instant he received some reinforcements (by the end of this Month) yet all my endeavours have not been able to prevent a great many from going away, according to their Custom after an Action. Should they be as good as their word (and they say the Island must be retaken, cost what it will) I shall have to encounter them with a Force considerably diminished while theirs will have been proportionably increased.

I have therefore to assure Your Excellency that the present Garrison is entirely inadequate to the defence of the Island which has now assumed a degree of importance which it never had before and which would be productive of most serious Consequences were it's safety and due security to

be neglected. Indeed it is of such consequence that this Frontier should be kept in a respectable state of defence, that when all the reinforcements have arrived it would be worth while to employ a Regiment between this place and the Mississippi—We here require *at least*, One hundred picked men and an Officer and Twenty Artillery—and a Company (and a small Detachment of Artillery) are absolutely necessary to defend Lieu[t] Col M[c]Kays new Conquest. The Fort is represented to me as being strongly situated and being capable of making an Excellent defence.

The Enemy's designs upon that fine country have been long formed and they had not a doubt of the whole of it as well as this Island being by this time in their possession by which means our connection with all the Indians of the Mississippi would have been completely cut off, nothing could have opposed them on that River and they could with impunity have carried their Schemes of Conquest even to Hudson's Bay.

It will give me uncommon satisfaction should Your Excellency be convinced of the importance of securing the Mississippi and the beneficial consequences which must result therefrom, for I should then consider it practicable that a company under an Active intelligent Officer might still garrison Fort M[c]Kay previous to the Winter they might embark at Nottawasaga in the Nancy, and have ample time to reach that place, whereas if omitted 'till next year, it will be the middle of June, before they can reach it which I much fear will enable the Enemy previously to attack it.

M[r] Rolette tells me there are ample supplies to maintain the Garrison—The Indians cannot be relied on for its defence but a Company of regular Troops would rally around them and firmly retain in our Interest all the Tribes of Indians on the Mississippi—A number of them, particularly those in the neighbourhood of S[t] Louis being without support from us and in the power of the Enemy have accordingly

temporized and kept back.—A singular instance of this lately occurred, Governor Clarke on his return route to the Prairie des Chiens, made peace with the Sauks and the Renards, but the instant they heard of the Capture of the Fort and the arrival of the British, than they immediately obeyed Col. M^cKay's summons, was supplied by him with Ammunition and attacking Major Campbells Flotilla effected the destruction of his whole Detachment.

This Signal and justly deserved punishment, together with the Capture of Fort M^cKay and the general union of the Indians, will cause great Terror at S^t Louis and I think fully deter them from making any attempts upon reconquered Country 'till the ensuing Spring.

I have &c

(Signed) Rob^t. M^cDouall

L^t. Col.

A true Copy

Noah Freer

Military Sec^ry.

Archives, C. 685, p. 176.

From McDouall at Michilimackinac to Drummond at ——.

Copy/ Michilimackinac 9^th Sept^r 1814

Sir/

I have the honor to inform you that some Indians, on their way to the falls of St. Mary's, returned to me with the intelligence, that part of the enemy's Squadron had on the 25^th ult^o., again made their appearance in the neighbourhood of St Josephs, likewise occupying the passage of the Detour their intention being evidently to cut off our supplies, & prevent all communication with this Garrison.

On the 31^st I was joined by Lieu^t Worsley of the Royal Navy with seventeen seamen, who had passed in a Canoe

sufficiently near the enemy to ascertain them to be two schooner rigged Gun boats of the largest class. On stating to me his opinion that they might be attacked with every prospect of success, particularly as they were at Anchor nearly five leagues asunder, I immediately determined to furnish him with requisite assistance.

In the course of the next day, four Boats were accordingly equipped, two of them with field pieces in their bows, One of them was manned by the seamen of the navy, the remaining three by a detachment of the Royal Newfoundland Reg^{t} under Lieut Bulger, Armstrong & Radenhurst consisting of fifty men. The whole sailed the same evening under the Command of Lieu^{t} Worsley—

I have now the satisfaction of reporting to you the complete success of the expedition ; Lieut Worsley having returned to this place on the 7th ins^{t} with his two prizes, consisting of the U.S. Schooners Scorpion and Tigress, the former carrying a long 24 and a long 12 P^{r} and the latter a long 24. they were commanded by Lieut Turner of the American Navy, and are very fine vessels—For the particulars of their Capture, I beg leave to refer you to the enclosed statement of Lieut Bulger, whose conduct in aiding the execution of this enterprise (in which he was slightly wounded) reflects upon him great credit, & I beg leave to recommend him as a meritorious Officer of long standing, who had been in many of the Actions of this War— Lieut Armstrong & Radenhurst possess similar claims, and with the detachment of the brave Newfoundland Reg't (who are familiar with this kind of service) merit my entire approbation neither should I omit noticing the zeal displayed by M^{r} Dickson and Lieut. Livingston of the Indian department, who volunteered their services on this occasion—

In calling your attention to the conspicuous merit of the Officer who so judiciously planned & carried into effect this well concerted enterprise—I am conscious that I only do

Lieut Worsley strict justice in acknowledging the eminent services which he has rendered this Garrison—You are already acquainted with the unequal conflict which he sustained at the Mouth of the River Nottowasaga and the almost unprecedented defence which he made of the Nancy Schooner with only twenty one Seamen and a few Indians against the American Squadron and upwards of three hundred Troops—Since that period he with his gallant little band of Seamen has traversed this extensive Lake in two boats laden with provisions for the Garrison, and having at this extremity of it, discovered two of his former opponents his active and indefatigable mind rested not—till he had relieved us from such troublesome neighbours, and conducted the blockading force in triumph into our Port—

Such, Sir, have been the services of L^{t} Worsley during the short time that he has been stationed on Lake Huron—I have to beg that you will strongly recommend him to the protection of Commodore Sir Jas Yeo and also to the patronage of His Excellency the Governor Gen^{l}, in order that my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty may be enabled to appreciate them as they merit.—

I have the honor to be
Sir, Your most obd^{t} Servant,
R^{r} M^{c}Douall L^{t} Col.
Com^{g}. at Michilimackinac

Archives, C. 685, p. 172.

Enclosure. From Lieutenant Bulger to McDouall.

Copy Michilimackinac 7th Sep^{r} 1814.
Sir/

I have the honor to report to you the particulars of the Capture of the United States Schooners Scorpion and Tigress by a detachment from this Garrison under the command of Lieu^{t} Worsley of the Royal Navy and myself—

In obedience to your Orders we left Michilimackinac on the Even'g of the 1st inst in four boats, one of which was manned by seamen under Lieut Worsley, the others by a detachment of the Royal Newfoundland Regt under myself, Lieutenants Armstrong & Radenhurst—We arrived near the Detour about sun set on the following day, but nothing was attempted that night, as the enemy's positions had not been correctly ascertained—The Troops remained the whole of the 3rd Inst concealed amongst the roads, and about 6 oclock that Even'g embarked & began to move towards the enemy.—We had to row about 6 miles, during which the most perfect order and silence reigned. The indians which accompanied us from Mackina were left about 3 miles in our rear. About 9 o'clock at night we discerned the enemy, and had approached to within one Hundred Yards of them before they hailed us, on receiving no answer, they opened a smart fire upon us both of musketry and from the 24 Pr all opposition however was in vain, for in the Course of five Minutes the enemy's Vessel was boarded and carried by Lieut Worsley and Lieut. Armstrong on the Starboard side and my boat and Lieut Radenhurst's on the larboard. She proved to be the Tigress commanded by sailing Master Champlin, mounting one long 24 Pr and with a compliment of 30 Men. The defence of this Vessel did credit to her Officers, who were all severely wounded, she had 3 men wounded & 3 missing supposed to have been killed and thrown immediately overboard—our loss is 1 seamen killed and several Soldiers and seamen slightly wounded—

On the morning of the 4th Inst the Prisoners were sent in a boat to Mackina under a Guard and we prepared to attack the other schooner, which we understood was anchored 15 miles farther down, the position of the Tigress was not altered, and the better to carry on the deception the American Pendant was kept flying—On the 5th Inst we discovered the Enemy's schooner beating upto us, the Soldiers I directed

to keep below, or to lie down on the Deck to avoid being seen— Every thing succeeded to our wish, the enemy came to anchor about 2 miles from us in the night, and as the day dawned on the 6th Inst we slipt our cable and ran down under our Jib and Foresail, every thing was so well managed by L't Worsley that we were within 10 yards of the enemy before they discovered us. it was then too late, for in the course of 5 minutes her Deck was covered with our men and the british flag hoisted over the American, She proved to be the Scorpion, commanded by Lieut Turner of the U S. Navy carrying one long 24 Pr in her hold with a compliment of 32 men—she had two men killed and 2 wounded—

I enclose a return of our killed and wounded, and am happy to say that the latter are but slight—

To the admirable good conduct and management of Lt Worsley of the Rl Navy the Success is to be in a great measure attributed, but I must assure you that every Officer and Man did his Duty—

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient
humble Servant
A. H. Bulger
Lieut. Royal Newfound Regt.

To
Lieut Colonel McDouall
&c &c

Return of Killed and Wounded of the Troops employed in the Capture of the U. S. Schooners Scorpion and Tigress on the 3d & 6th Sepr 1814

Royal Artillery—One Rank & file—Wounded

Roy[l] Newfd Ld Regt—One Lieut and Six Rank & file—wounded

Officer Wounded, — Lieu^{t} Bulger R^{l} Newf^{d} Reg^{t} — Slightly

(Signed) A. H. Bulger
Lieu^{t} R^{l} N.f^{d} Reg^{t}

N.B.—Three Seamen Killed,

Copy
J Harvey
L^{t} Col D A G

Certified
Edw Baynes
Ad/G^{l} NA

NARRATIVE DOCUMENTS

GROUP X (*continued*)

OPERATIONS ON THE FRONTIERS, 1814

Western Ontario: 14. Traitors, July 11, 1814.

Archives, C. 166, p. 84.

From Drummond at Kingston to Prevost at ——.

Head Quarters
Kingston
July 11th 1814

Sir/

I have the honor to acquaint Your Excellency, that a Court, under a Special Commission, which I had issued for the trial of divers Persons, His Majestys Subjects in this Province, taken in Arms, and charged with High Treason, and Treasonable practices, opened at Ancaster in the District of Niagara, on the 23^{d} of May, and adjourned on the 21st of June.

Fifteen Persons tried before it, were convicted of High Treason and the Sentence of the Law was passed upon them.

In order however to give time to communicate fully with me, and to afford to all an equal chance of supplicating the Royal Mercy, the Judges thought proper to respite the Convicts generally to the 20th of this Month. On that day I have directed the Sentence of the law to be carried into execution on the following Persons

Vizt.

Aaron Stevens
Benjamin Simmons
Noah Hopkins
Dayton Lyndsay
George Peacock
Josiah Brink
Adam Crysler, and
John Dunham . . . 8.

The remaining Seven Persons under Sentence, I have been induced to respite until His Majestys pleasure shall be made known respecting them. Their names are

Samuel and Stephen } Hartwell—Brothers.
Isaac Petit
Jacob Overholser
Garrat Null
John Johnston
Cornelius Howey . . . 7.

The Reports of the Chief Justice and the other Judges, which were my guide in forming this decision on their fate, tho' they did not state any thing very favorable had appeared on the trials of any of the Prisoners, whose crimes were extreemly similar, yet concluded with the opinion, very strongly repeated by the Chief Justice, that many Examples were not wanting

to convince the People of this Province that Treason will meet with its just reward, and that Lenity so far as is consistent with the Public good, would have a most salutary effect.

For the better Security of those respited, until His Majestys pleasure shall be made known respecting them, it is my intention to bring them to this place, from whence I conceive it to be most essentially necessary that they should be forwarded to Quebec, there to be kept in custody.—

As soon as I have learnt that the Executions have taken place, I shall make my further report to Your Excellency.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your Excellency's
Most obedient
and Most humble Servant
GORDON DRUMMOND
L[t] General & President

NARRATIVE DOCUMENTS

GROUP X (*continued*)

OPERATIONS ON THE FRONTIERS, 1814

WESTERN ONTARIO: 15. MURDER OF FRANCIS, OCTOBER 22, 1814

Archives, C. 686, p. 101.

From Major Salmon at Woodhouse to Lieutenant-Colonel Parry at Burlington.

My dear Sir,

We have received the Communication from Widow Thomas's and will forward it to Burford—I am sorry to inform you Dicksons party have murdered old Capt[n] Francis, he

slept in the new House and a family that works the Farm in the old House adjoining. They came in the Night to the old part and insisted on having Francis, they said he was in the next House, to which they proceeded, the old Man said he would surrender himself a prisoner but begged them to spare his life which they declared they would not—he then looked out of the upper window if there was any way to escape and was shot through the head—The family heard him fall—They then desired them to take out the Goods but would not suffer his remains to be removed which was burned with the House—The adjoining family saw but three Men one of whom was Dickson, but from their conversation believe the party consisted of 30—They had arrived early last evening and paroled some of the Neighbours, I have only learned the name of Long who lately kept a Distillery near Finches.—At Culvers there are but 3 effective Men I cannot think with such a party so near, that the Stores can be considered safe, the Guards at the Mills too should I think be strengthened—I mean to turn out 20 Men to morrow and have written Col^{n} Ryerson to do likewise and will keep them out till Drakes return with your order—I saw myself 22 Barrels of Flour off from Teasdales Mill Thursday last. We are very short of Ammunition—no Flints

I have the honor to be
D^{r} Sir Y^{r} Obed Servt—
George C. Salmon
Major Commg

Woodhouse
October 22nd 1814

Archives, C. 686, p. 103.

From Talbot to Parry.

24th Oc^{r} 1814

My dear Colonel—

I have this Moment received a letter from Major Salmon, relating the shocking murder of poor old Francis by Dickson

and party. Salmon has written the particulars to you, We must order out a greater force of Militia for the Guard, a communication sh[d] be immediately made of the circumstance of Francis's murder in order that Gen[l]. Drummond sh[d] represent it to the American Gen[l] and Govern[t]—pray order Drake's certificate for riding express to be paid.—

Y[rs] faithfully

THOMAS TALBOT.

Archives, C. 686, p. 199.

From Drummond at Kingston to Prevost at ——.

Kingston, November 24[th] 1814

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's two letters of the 18[th] Instant.—

As soon as I have received Colonel Talbot's communication relative to the murder of Captain Francis, of the Militia, I will lose no time in transmitting the statement to Your Excellency.—

I have forwarded a Copy of that, directing the retaliatory measures to be pursued against the Enemy, to Major General Stovin, Commanding the Right Division.—

By the last Accounts from Burlington, it would appear, that the Enemy have altogether retired to Detroit; and Major General De Watteville had returned to Chippewa.—

The Niagara is now alongside the Princess Charlotte, taking in the Guns, Anchor, and Stores for the Vessel to be built at Penetengushene.—

The Charvell will proceed with a small supply of Provisions, and Stores, to the Head of the Lake.—The Star unluckily sprung her Masts in a Gale, and cannot venture upon the Lake again this Season.—This is an extremely

unfortunate circumstance, as there are still many men of the 41st 100th and 103rd Regiments, to be brought down.—

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Excellency's
most Obedient,
humble Servant,
GORDON DRUMMOND
Lt General

NARRATIVE DOCUMENTS

GROUP X (*continued*)

OPERATIONS ON THE FRONTIERS, 1814

WESTERN ONTARIO: 16. AMERICAN RAID FROM THE WEST, AUTUMN, 1814

Archives, C. 686, p. 165.

From Lieutenant Colonel Smelt at Grand River Swamp to De Watteville at Ancaster.

[Endorsement] Dispd from Fowlers at 20 Minutes past three o'clock P.M.

Grand River Swamp
Novr 8th 1814

Sir

I have to acknowledge the receipt of Your Letter. The Report of the Enemy having returned to Malcolms Mills was unfounded, they are still going off towards Long Point and I have no Doubt but that they are going back by Way of

Talbots Road, however I shall be able to give correct Information in the Course of the Night, Cap^{t} Chambers of the Quarter Master Generals Dep^{t} is gone over the River with some of the Dragoons and Indians, and will I am certain send the very best Intelligence, which I will forward immediately I receive it—The last I heard of the Enemy were that they were near Turkey Point—If this Information was correct it was my Intention to have returned to Burlington to morrow Morning for the purpose of embarking for Lower Canada; should the 37th have arrived, as we have only 180 Effective Men here, and the greatest Part of them convalescent. One Six Pounder has arrived here, but which I shall detain here till I hear from Cap^{t} Chambers, as the Road between this and the Grand River is nearly a Swamp the whole Way—The Enemy's Force we have ascertained to be as near as possible 1500 mounted Riflemen.—I think could the Indians be persuaded to follow them a Number might fall into our hands, but they do not seem at all inclined—The Number of Men I have with me is about 200 Regulars including 27 of the 19th L^{t} Dragoons, about 400 Indians, and perhaps 150 Militia, but I am sorry to say the Indians are falling back very fast—their great Complaint is Want of Shoes.—The Enemy burn every Mill they fall in with, which is of very great Detriment to this part of the Country, they do not seem to commit other Depredations—I daresay the Indians would go if they had regular Troops with them, but as the Enemy have such a start, and are all mounted, no regulars could possibly overtake them unless they halt on the Road, which they will not do, Gen^{l} Brown having left Fort Erie, to which place they were proceeding,

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most ob^{t} humble Sv^{t}.
W Smelt
L Col.

Archives, C. 686, p. 177.

From Drummond at Kingston to Freer at ——.

Kingston Novem^{r} 14th
1814.

Sir,

In consequence of the devastation committed by the Enemy, in the neighbourhood of Grand River, and Turkey Point, I considered it requisite to address the letter, of which the accompanying is a Copy, to Commodore Sir James Yeo, stating the necessity of his transporting a supply of Provisions for the Right Division, from hence, before the close of the Navigation.—A Copy also of the Commodore's reply I have the honor to enclose, for the information of His Excellency, The Commander of the Forces.—

Independent of the want of Provisions, which now must be the necessary result of the destruction of the Mills in that vicinity,—the proposed Naval Establishment on Lake Erie must be, I understand, for the present suspended. The Commodore, and the Commissioner, Sir Robert Hall, having called upon me to state, that they have not a sufficiency of Guns, or Stores, to complete a Vessel of the description and Class, they had intended to build at that place.—I have, notwithstanding, directed Captain Payne, to proceed thither with his Detachment of Sappers and Miners, and Major Cockburne with the Company of Canadian Fencibles for the purpose of executing the military part of the Plan, as far as erecting Cover, and some Defences, for the Troops, and Naval Artificers, a small body of whom are to be employed cutting and preparing Timber to be in readiness for Dock Yard use when required.—

I have the honor to transmit a letter from Major General De Watteville, covering a Report of the Enemy's movement towards Turkey Point ; which I did not consider of sufficient

importance to dispatch by an Extra Express,—the regular Express day from hence being tomorrow.—

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient,
humble Servant,
GORDON DRUMMOND
L[t] General

Archives, C. 686, p. 170.

Enclosure. From Drummond at Kingston to Yeo at ——.

Head Quarters, Kingston
13 November 1814

(Copy)
Sir,

Having just received an Account of the destruction by the Enemy of all the Resources (and the Mills) of the Country to the Westward of the Grand River, from which we had calculated upon deriving the principal part of the Supplies destined to support the Regular Troops and Indians during the approaching Winter, it becomes absolutely necessary that the means of feeding them should be forwarded from hence before the Close of the Navigation.—I cannot exactly state the quantity of Transport which will be required, but I can without hesitation say that nothing less than the aid of the whole Squadron will be sufficient to relieve the Urgent Wants of the Right Division of the Army. In the event of your agreeing to afford me the Assistance which I feel it to be my Duty to require, I should be induced to avail myself of the Opportunity of proceeding myself to Burlington in order to ascertain the extent of the mischief which the unfortunate want of Troops at that point has enabled the Enemy to do us and to make such arrangements as may appear to me to be called for.

It will be necessary in my Opinion that the *Smaller* Vessels should land the Stores they may take on Board at Burlington Beach.

In anticipation of your assent to a proposal which is so immediately connected with the preservation of an important part of the Province and which must be absolutely evacuated by the Troops unless I am provided with the means of conveying relief to them, I have directed the Deputy Commissary General to be prepared to put on Board the Ships every Barrel of Provisions which can possibly be spared from the Stores of this Depôt.

Under the unfortunate circumstances which have occurred, it would perhaps be advisable to change the Plan relative to the Crew of the Niagara, which would only add to the difficulties which we shall, I fear, experience in feeding any thing at Turkey Point—At all events, for the present I would advise only a few Artificers and Shipwrights being sent there—the Crew of the Ship can be sent up in the Winter.

I have the honor to be, &c
(signed) Gordon Drummond
L[t] General

Archives, C. 686, p. 173.

Enclosure. From Yeo at Kingston to Drummond at ——.

His Majesty's Ship, S[t] Lawrence,
(Copy) at Kingston the 14[th] Nov[r] 1814.

Sir,

I have had the honor of your letter of yesterday's date, acquainting me of the destruction by the Enemy of all the Mills, to the Westward of the Grand River, and requiring the aid of the whole Squadron to relieve the urgent want of the Right Division of the Army.

I have at all times, (from motives of duty and inclination,)

been ready and solicitous to cooperate, and assist the Army, to the utmost of my means and ability, and therefore on the present occasion feel the more distressed that it is not in my power to comply with your request, without exposing His Majesty's Squadron to most imminent danger, such, as no Officer could be warranted in risking.—

I have consulted Mess[rs] Richardsons, the Pilots, and others best acquainted with the Lake, who give it as their opinion that it would be the height of imprudence and hazardous in the extreme, to take the large Ships on the Lake at this advanced season of the year—that it has ever been the custom to lay up the Vessels on the 15[th] of this month, and though small Vessels have been on the Lake as late as the 1[st] of December they have narrowly escaped being lost—that the Snow Storms generally last Twentyfour Hours, with great violence, and there is no Anchorage or Shelter for large Ships between this and York. I do not hesitate in declaring that if the Squadron were to be caught on the Lake in such a storm it is my opinion that their loss would be inevitable.—

It is also to be considered that if the Squadron were at this moment ready to sail, the Service could not be accomplished under ten days at least, from it's being impossible to approach the Niagara River within Six Miles, Burlington is out of the question, and York which is the only place the Squadron can communicate with, the Ships are obliged to lay at the distance of three miles, and it is only in moderate weather, that Boats could land the Provisions—it would therefore be December before the Squadron would return, and then could not get into Port, if the wind was Easterly.—

The Montreal is reported by the Builder Unfit for Service without undergoing repair, and I can assure you, Sir, I am not without my apprehensions for the safety of the two Brigs on the Lake.—

I shall attend to your suggestions respecting the Crew of the Niagara.—

Should you determine on going up, and think proper to accept of the Niagara, I will order Captain Collier to be prepared to receive you on board.

I have the honor to be, &c.
(Signed) James Lucas Yeo,
Commodore and Commander in Chief

Archives, C. 686, p. 188.

From Drummond at Kingston to Freer at ——.

Kingston November 17th 1814

Sir,

Enclosed is the Copy of a Report from Captain Chambers, Deputy Assistant Quarter Master General, transmitted to me by Major General De Watteville.— 10th Novr 1814 Novr 11th 1814

The Major General, upon faith of the information of the Enemy's retreat, had set out for Chippawa; but, I doubt not, has by this time returned to Ancaster, in consequence of intelligence, which will have overtaken him on the road, that a Body of the Enemy, had crossed the Thames, at Delaware, and were advancing towards Oxford.—This intelligence was brought by a Huron Indian; but how far it is to be relied on is yet to be known.—

Five Companies of the 37th Regt with two 6 Pounders complete, had marched for Turkey Point.—

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient,
humble Servant,
Gordon Drummond
Lt General

Archives, C. 686, p. 251.

Extract of a Letter from Colonel Talbot to Captain Foster, dated Major Salmons, Long Point, 3rd December, 1814.

Your letter from Kingston dated the 18th of last month, reached me some days ago, I have in compliance of the desire of Lieutenant General Drummond collected the enclosed information respecting Dixon and the persons who formed his party, the most satisfactory particular, is the assurance of his having survived his atrocious Murder of poor Captain Francis but a few days, he having received a mortal Wound from some Militia men near Sugar Loaf, his Associates, Dockstader, and Robinson, succeeded in taking him to Buffaloe, where he died a few hours after his arrival, his Wife who is a native of this Province, has returned to her Fathers at Long Point, I have required her deposition to be taken before two Magistrates as also those of the family of Dennis, who lived in Captain Francis's house at the time the Murder was perpetrated which are herewith transmitted. I cannot conceive that the Government of the United States will for a moment hesitate, in affording it's sanction and assistance in apprehending and delivering up Dockstader and Robinson who were the only persons concerned with Dixon in the Murder—

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient
humble Servant
(Signed) Thomas Talbot.

Archives, C. 686, p. 226.

From James at Burlington to Harvey at ——

Burlington 11th Decemr 1814

Sir,

I have been Honored by Your Letter of the 29th Ulto and as the recommendation of a Staff Adjutant for this Post does not meet the approbation of Lieut. Genl Drummond, it will afford me great pleasure if by a continuance of my Exertion the several duties are discharged to his satisfaction.

A very well known Loyal Subject a "Mr John Stockwell who lives 14 Miles on this side Malden came here yesterday and informed me that He left Home on the 27th Ulto, at which period the Enemy were very busily employed in throwing up a Work and Stockading a small point near Malden" under a full impression that the English would pay them a visit very soon—

He states that the Enemy at present are very few at Malden and not more than 200 Men at Detroit, and those barely coming under the denomination of Soldiers—Every Man who could be relied on has been sent to the Southward; Americans as well as Indians; the former are actively employed in threshing and carrying off all the Corn in that part of Mr Stockwell's Neighbourhood, and occasionally driving away the Cattle—He decidedly states that Genl MacArthur's force in the first instance, & before they crossed the Thames to amount to Nine Hundred Men, but that Six Hundred only entered this Country, the other three having deserted in two days—

Mr Stockwell requests it to be made known to General Drummond His intire knowledge of the Country and confidence that He can at any time conduct a considerable Force unperceived to the Enemys Works. He has also requested I would state the serious injury's arising from the information given to the Enemy by a Number of Men (Americans) settled near to Him and who are their Agents for Corn and Cattle,

and expresses an Earnest desire that they may be removed which He Himself is ready to do with a small party of Indians only.

I have the Honor to be
Sir,
Your Most Obedient
humᵉ Servant
Rᵈ James
Lᵗ Col.

Archives, C. 695A.

A PROCLAMATION

By John Miller Esqʳ Colonel of the 17ᵗʰ Regᵗ United States Infantry—Military and Civil Commandment of that District of Upper Canada which is above the round O, or Lake Erie.—

Whereas Information has been received that the Citizens of Sᵈ District have on hand Large quantities of Supplies Grain.

And whereas it is Deemed Essential to the Interest of the Service as well as beneficial to the Citizens of Sᵈ District that the same should be purchased for the use of the U States—

Therefor the Citizens of Sᵈ are required and positively commanded to bring and Deliver to such persons and at such places as shall be hereinafter specified, All the Flour Wheat and Oats which they may have on hand, more than is absolutely necessary for the use and consumption of their Families and Stock. The whole of Sᵈ Surplus Flour and Grain shall be delivered on or before the first day of November next. Those persons who reside on the river Thames above an[d] Contiguous to Dolsons Will Deliver their Flour and Grain at that place—Those living below Dolsons and those on Lake St. Clair And Detroit River and on their waters as low as the Mouth of the Canard will Deliver their Flour and Grain at Detroit, And those living below the Mouth of the River Canard as far down Lake Erie as Point ou Plait will deliver theirs at Amherstburgh—Major John H. Pialt the contractor

and Cap^{t} J McCloskey A D. Quarter Master General will appoint agents at those places to receive and pay for the flour and Grain so delivered at the following prices (to wit) Six dollars per Cwt. or twelve dollars per Barrel for Flour one dollar and a half for Wheat and three quarters of a dollar for Oats per Bushel, all Flour Wheat or Oats over and above what will be absolutely necessary for Domestic use Not delivered at one of the above places on or before the s^{d} first day of November next agreeable to this order shall be Immediately destroyed and the person or persons witholding such surplus Flour or Grain or failing to Deliver it within the time prescribed shall be severely punished, Three Impartial persons will be appointed to Inspect and decide whether more Flour or Grain has been withheld or kept back than is absolutely necessary for Domestic use, The Citizens within the Vicinity of Dolsons will be held responsible in case the Flour or Grain deposited at that place is destroyed by Secret or Clandestine Measures. Given under my hand at Malden U. C. this 26 Sep^{t} 1814

JOHN MILLER
Col 17th Reg^{t}
Commg

Ft Malden
5th Nov 1814

N.B.—The time specified for delivery on the above Proclamation being too Limited the officer commanding the Western District of U. Canada deems it necessary to put it off to the 20 Dec^{r} next at which time no failure are expected from the Inhabitants,

C. GRATIOT
Col. Comg

[Written on back of Proclamation]

M^{r} Charles Stewart Sir you air Requested to put up this Proclamation In the Most public place in this Town Ship

Yours &c
P. CHILTERN

Archives, C. 686, p. 248.

From Drummond at Kingston to Prevost at ——

Kingston. Dec^{r} 31st 1814,

Sir,

I have the honor to enclose, for Your Excellency's information, the Copy of a Letter I received from Assistant Commissary General Crookshank, at York.

Captain Payne, with the Sappers and Miners, has arrived at Holland River.—The Canadian Fencibles have proceeded on, to assist in cutting the Road.—M^{r} Wilmot, as Overseer, with two Assistants, have also gone on, to mark, and superintend the Work.—

By the last Reports from Major General Stovin, it appears that the Enemy are still endeavouring to collect Grain, upon the River Thames.—Should the Major General's information continue to the same effect, I have left it discretional with him, to push forward a Force, under Lieutenant Colonel James, to interrupt these proceedings, and to carry off any Supplies which may have been collected.—

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Excellency's
most obedient,
humble Servant,
Gordon Drummond
L^{t} General

NARRATIVE DOCUMENTS

GROUP XI

BRITISH COUNTER-INVASION OF THE UNITED STATES, 1814

1. MAINE, July and September, 1814
2. PLATTSBURG, September 11, 1814

NARRATIVE DOCUMENTS

GROUP XI

BRITISH COUNTER-INVASION OF THE UNITED STATES, 1814

I. Maine, July and September, 1814

Archives, C. 684, p. 144.

From Lieutenant Colonel Pilkington at Moose Island to Sir John C. Sherbrooke at ——.

Copy

Moose Island
Passamaquoddy Bay
July 12—1814

Sir

Having sailed from Halifax on the 5th Inst accompanied by Lieut Colonel Nicolls of the Royal Engineers and a Detachment of the Royal Artillery under the command of Captain Dunn, I have the Honor to acquaint Your Excellency that we arrived at Shelburne, the place of Rendezvous, on the evening of the 7th Inst where I found Captn Sir Thomas Hardy in H:M: Ship Ramillies, with 2 transports having on board the 102nd Regt under the command of Lt Colone Herries, had arrived the day before.—I did not fail to lay before Sir Thomas Hardy my Instructions, and to consult with him the best means of carrying them into execution.—

As we concurred in Opinion that the success of the Enterprize with which we were entrusted, would very

materially depend upon our reaching the point of Attack previous to the Enemy being apprized of our intentions, that Officer with his accustomed alacrity and decision directed the Ships of War and Transports to get under weigh early on the following morning, and we yesterday about three °Clock P:M: anchored near to the Town of Eastport.—

On our approach to this Island, Lieut[t] Oates (Your Excellency's Aide de Camp, whom you had permitted to accompany me on this service) was detached in a boat bearing a flag of truce, with a Summons, (copy of which is transmitted) addressed to the Officer Commanding, requiring that Moose Island should be surrendered to His Britannic Majesty—This proposal was not accepted : In consequence of which, the Troops which were already in the Boats, pulled off under the superintendance of Captain Senhouse Royal Navy, whose arrangements were so judicious as to insure a successful Issue.—But previous to reaching the Shore, the Colours of the Enemy on Fort Sullivan were hauled down ; and on our landing, the Capitulation was agreed to, of which the Copy is enclosed.—

We found in the Fort a Detach[t] of the 40[th] Regiment of American Infantry consisting of 6 Officers and about 80 men, under the command of Major Putnam, who surrendered themselves Prisoners of War.—

This Fort is situated on an Eminence commanding the Entrance to the Anchorage, and within it is a Blockhouse, and also four long Eighteen Pounders, One Eighteen Pound Carronade, and four Field pieces.—

The extent of the Island is about four Miles in length, and two in breadth ; and in a great state of cultivation.—The Militia amount to about 250 and the Population is calculated at 1500.—

We have also occupied Allens, and Frederick Islands, so that the whole of the Islands in this Bay are now subject to the British Flag.—

It is very satisfactory to me to add that this Service has been Effected without any loss or casualty, among the Troops employed in it.—

To Captain Sir Thomas Hardy I consider myself under the greatest obligations; having experienced every possible cooperation, with an Offer to disembark from his Squdron, any proportion of Seamen or Marines, which I considered necessary.—

I beg to acknowledge my thanks to You, in allowing Your Aide de Camp, Lieut[t] Oates, to accompany me upon this Service He has been of great assistance to me, and will have the Honor of delivering this despatch.—He has also in his possession the Colours & Standard found in Fort Sullivan.—

I have the Honor to be
Sir
Your faithful
& obedient Servant
(signed) A. PILKINGTON
L[t] Col[l] D[y] Adj[t] Gen[l]

a true Copy
T N ADDISON
Mil: Sec[y]

Archives, C. 684, p. 140.

Enclosure. From Captain Sir Thomas Hardy, R.N., and Lieutenant Colonel Pilkington to the Officer Commanding United States Troops on Moose Island.

On board H:M: Ship
Copy/ Ramillies off Moose Island
July 11[th] 1814

Sir

As we are perfectly apprized of the Weakness of the Fort & Garrison under Your Command, & Your Inability to defend

Moose Island against the Ships & Troops of His Britannic Majesty, placed under our Directions, We are induced from the humane Consideration of avoiding the Effusion of Blood, and from a Regard to you and the Inhabitants of the Island, to prevent if in our power the Distresses and Calamities which will befal them in case of Resistance.—

We therefore allow you *Five* Minutes from the time this Summons is delivered, to decide upon an answer.

In the event of your not agreeing to Capitulate on liberal Terms, We shall deeply lament being compelled to resort to those *coercive Measures* which may cause Destruction to the Town of Eastport, but which will ultimately insure us Possession of the Island.—

signed/
T: M Hardy Captain of H:M: Ship Ramillies
signed/
A Pilkington L^{t} Col^{l} Com^{g}

a true Copy
T N Addison
Mil: Sec^{y}

To
The Officer Commanding
United States Troops
^{on} Moose Island

Archives, C. 684, p. 142.

Enclosure. From Major Putnam at Fort Sullivan, Moose Island, to Hardy and Pilkington.

Copy Fort Sullivan July 11th 1814

Gentlemen

Conformably to your demand I have surrendered Fort Sullivan with all the Public Property.

This I have done to stop the Effusion of Blood, & in consideration of Your Superior Force

I am, Gentlemen
with respect
Your very obd[t] Servant
signed/
P: PUTNAM
Major Comm[g]

P:S: I hope Gentlemen, every respect will be paid to the defenceless Inhabitants of this Island, and the Private Property of the Officers—

P:P:

To
Captain Sir Tho[s] Hardy
Commanding H:M: Ship Ramillies
Lieut[t] Colonel Pilkington
&[c] &[c] &[c]

A true Copy
W: C: OATES
A:D:C:

a true Copy
T N ADDISON
Mil: Sec[y]

Archives, C. 684, p. 148.

Enclosure.

ARTICLES OF CAPITULATION FOR THE SURRENDER OF MOOSE ISLAND AGREED TO BETWEEN CAPTAIN SIR THOMAS HARDY COMMANDING THE NAVAL FORCES & L[T] COLONEL PILKINGTON COMMANDING THE LAND FORCES ON THE PART OF HIS BRITANNIC MAJESTY & MAJOR PUTNAM COMMANDING ON MOOSE ISLAND ON THE PART OF THE UNITED STATES— JULY 12[TH] 1814

Article 1[st]

The Officers & Troops of the United States at present on Moose Island are to Surrender themselves Prisoners of

War, and are to deliver up the Forts Buildings, Arms Ammunition, Stores and Effects with exact Inventories thereof belonging to the American Government, and they are thereby transferred to His Britannic Majesty in the same Manner & Possession as has been held heretofore by the American Government

Article 2nd

The Garrison of the Island shall be Prisoners of War until regularly exchanged. They will march out of the Fort with the honors of War and File their Arms at such place as will be appointed for that purpose—The Officers will be permitted to proceed to the United States on their Parole

Article 3d

Every respect will be paid to Private Property found on Moose Island belonging to the Inhabitants thereof

signed
G: Nicolls
Lt Col[l] R[l] Engineers
signed/
H: Fleming Senhouse
Commr of H:M:S: Martin
signed/
Jacob B Varnum
Captn 40th Regt U: States Infantry
signed
John Fillebrown
Captn 40th Regt U:S: Infantry
sigd
Approved by us T W Hardy Captain of H:M: Ship Ramillies

sig[d]/
A: PILKINGTON L[t] Col[l]
Commanding

sig[d]/
P: PUTNAM
Major 40 Reg[t] U:S: Inf[y]

a true Copy
T N ADDISON
Mil: Sec[y]

Archives, C. 684, p. 143.

Enclosure.

Copy East Port 11th July 1814

RETURN OF ORDNANCE AND STORES FOUND IN FORT SULLIVAN SURRENDERED TO HIS MAJESTY'S FORCES UNDER THE COMMAND OF LIEUT. COLONEL PILKINGTON

Species of Stores				No	Remarks
Ordnance	Iron	Guns	18 Pd[rs] with standing Carriages Side Arms &c complete	4	
			9 Pd[rs]	2	Unserviceable
		Carronades 12 Pd[rs] without Carriages		2	
	Brass	Guns 6 Pd[rs] L[t] with travelling Carriages Side Arms &c		4	2 Carriages Unserviceable
Cartridges	Paper filled with 6 lbs of Powder			42	
	Flannel ditto ditto			5	
	Musqut Ball			3376	unserviceable
Shot	18 Pd[rs]	Round loose		452	
		Grape		55	
	6 Pd[rs]	Round loose		389	
		Case		95	
Powder Corned Barrels containing 100 lbs each				6	
Musquests with Bayonets Belts Slings &c complete				100*	
Swords with Belts Scabbards &c				6	
Tents				72	incomplete
United States Ensign				1	

NB The above Small Arms are exclusive of those in possession of the Militia.

Signed WM DUNN,
Capt Rl Artv Comg

To Lieut Coll PILKINGTON,
&c &c

A true Copy,
T N ADDISON
Mil: Secy.

Archives, Nova Scotia A 151, p. 278.

(*Transcript from the original in the Public Record Office, London.*)

From Sherbrooke at Castine to Bathurst, Downing Street.

Castine, at the entrance
of the Penobscot.
N° 189 September 10th 1814.

My Lord,

I have now the honor to inform your Lordship that after closing my dispatch on the 26th Ultimo, in which I mentioned my intentions of proceeding to the Penobscot, Rear Admiral Griffith and myself lost no time in sailing from Halifax with such a naval force as he deemed necessary and the troops as per margin to accomplish the object we had in view.

1 Compy Rl Artilly
2 rifle Companies of the 7th Battn 60th Rt 29th 62nd and 98th Regiments

Very early in the morning of the 30th we fell in with the Rifleman Sloop of War when Captain Pearse inform'd us that the United States frigate the Adams had got into the Penobscot but from the apprehension of being attacked by our cruizers if she remained at the entrance of the river she had run up as high as Hampden where she had landed her guns, and mounted them on shore for her protection.

On leaving Halifax it was my original intention to have taken possession of Machias on our way hither but on receiving this intelligence the Admiral and myself were of opinion that no time should be lost in proceeding to our destination and we arrived here very early on the morning of the 1st Inst:

The Fort of Castine which is situated upon a peninsula on the Eastern side of the Penobscot near the entrance of that river was summoned a little after Sunrise but the American Officer refused to surrender it and immediately opened a fire from four 24 pounders, upon a small schooner that had been sent with Lt Colonel Nicolls (Commg: Royal Engineer) to reconnoitre the work. Arrangements were immediately made for disembarking the Troops, but before

a landing could be effected the Enemy blew up his Magazine and escaped up the Majebagwadous River carrying off in the boats with him two field pieces. As we had no means of ascertaining what force the Americans had on this Peninsula I landed a detachment of Royal Artillery with two rifle Companies of the 60th and the 98th Regiment under Colonel Douglas in the rear of it with orders to secure the isthmus and to take possession of the heights which command the Town but I soon learned that there were no regulars at Castine except the party which had blown up the Magazine and escaped and that the Militia which were assembled there had dispersed immediately on our landing.

Rear Admiral Griffith and myself next turned our attention to obtaining possession of the Adams or if that could not be done to destroying her. The arrangement for this Service having been made the Admiral entrusted the execution of it to Capt: Barrie R:N: and as the cooperation of a land force was necessary I directed Lt Col[l] John with a detachment of Artillery the flank Companies of the 29th 62nd and 98th Regiments and one rifle company of the 60th to accompany and cooperate with Captn Barrie on this occasion but as Hampden is 27 miles above Castine it appeared to me a necessary measure of precaution first to occupy a post on the Western bank which might afford support if necessary to the force going up the river, and at the same time prevent the armed population which is very numerous to the Southward and Westward from annoying the British in their operations against the Adams.

Upon enquiry I found that Belfast which is upon the high road leading from Hampden to Boston, and which perfectly commands the bridge was likely to answer both these purposes and I consequently directed Major General Gosselin to occupy that place with the 29th Regt and to maintain it till further orders.

As soon as this was accomplished and the tide served

Rear Admiral Griffith directed Captain Barrie to proceed to his destination and the remainder of the Troops were landed that evening at Castine.

Understanding that a strong party of Militia from the neighbouring Townships had assembled at about four miles from Castine on the road leading to Blue hill I sent out a strong patrole on the morning of the 2nd before day break on arriving at the place I was inform'd that the Militia of the Country had assembled there on the Alarm guns being fired at the Fort at Castine upon our first appearance but that the main body had since dispersed and returned to their respective homes. Some Stragglers were however left who fired upon our advanced guard and then took to the Woods a few of whom were made prisoners.

No intelligence having reached us from Captain Barrie on Saturday night I marched with about 700 men and two light field pieces upon Buckston at three oclock on Sunday morning the 4th Inst for the purpose of learning what progress he had made and of affording him assistance if required.

This place is about 18 miles higher up the Penobscot than Castine and on the Eastern bank of the river. Rear Admiral Griffith accompanied me on this occasion and as we had reason to believe that the light guns which had been taken from Castine were secreted in the neighbourhood of Buckston We threatened to destroy the town unless they were delivered up and the two brass three pounders on travelling carriages were in consequence brought to us in the course of the day and are now in our possession.

At Buckston we received very satisfactory accounts of the success which had attended the force employed up the river We learned that Captn Barrie had proceeded from Hampden up to Bangor and the Admiral sent an Officer in a boat from Buckston to communicate with him when finding there was no necessity for the troops remaining longer at Buckston they marched back to Castine the next day.

Having ascertained that the object of the expedition up the Penobscot had been attain'd it was no longer necessary for me to occupy Belfast I therefore on the evening of the 6th directed Majr General Gosselin to embark the Troops and to join me here. Machias being the only place now remaining where the Enemy had a Post between the Penobscot and Passamaquoddy Bay I ordered Lt Colonel Pilkington to proceed with a detachment of Royal Artillery and the 29th Regt to occupy it, and as Naval assistance was required Rear Admiral Griffith directed Captain Parker of the Tenedos to co-operate with Lieutt Colonel Pilkington on this occasion.

On the morning of the 9th Captn Barrie with Lt. Coll John and the Troops which had been employed with him up the Penobscot returned to Castine. It seems the Enemy blew up the Adams on his strong position at Hampden being attacked, but all his Artillery two Stands of Colors and a Standard with several merchant Vessels fell into our Hands. this I am happy to say was accomplished with very little loss on our part and your Lordship will perceive by the return sent herewith that the only officer wounded in this affair is Capt: Gell of the 29th Grenadiers.

Herewith I have the honor to transmit a copy of the report made to me by Lt Colonel John on this occasion, in which your Lordships will be pleas'd to observe that the Lieutt Colonel speaks very highly of the gallantry and good conduct displayed by the Troops upon this expedition under very trying circumstances and I beg to call your Lordship's attention to the names of those officers upon whom Lt Colonel John particularly bestows praise. The enterprise and intrepidity manifested by Lt Colonel John and the discipline and gallantry displayed by the Troops under him reflect great honor upon them and demand my warmest acknowledgements and I have to request that your Lordship will take a favorable opportunity of bringing the meritorious and successful Services performed by the Troops employed

on this occasion under the view of His Royal Highness the Prince Regent.

As Rear Admiral Griffith will no doubt make a detailed report of the naval operations on this occasion I forbear touching further upon this Subject than to solicit your Lordship's attention to that part of L[t] Colonel John's report in which "he attributes the success of this enterprise to the masterly arrangements of Capt[n] Barrie R:N: who conducted it."

I have much pleasure in reporting to your Lordship that the most perfect unanimity and good understanding has prevailed between the naval and military branches of the Service during the whole progress of this expedition.

I feel it my duty to express in the strongest Terms the great obligations I am under to Rear Admiral Griffith for his judicious Advice & ready co-operation on every occasion, and my thanks are likewise due to all the Captains of the Ships employed, for the assistance they have so willingly afforded the Troops and from which the happiest results have been experienced.

I have reason to be well satisfied with the gallantry and good conduct of the Troops and have to offer my thanks to M: Gen[l] Gosselin Colonel Douglas and the Commanding Officers of Corps for the alacrity shewn by them and the strict discipline which has been maintained.

To the Heads of Departments and to the Officers of the General and of my personal Staff I am much indebted for the zealous manner in which they have discharged their respective duties.

Major Addison my military Secretary will have the honor of delivering this dispatch He has been with me during the whole of these operations and is well enabled to afford your Lordship any further information you may require. I have entrusted the Colors and Standard taken from the Enemy to Major Addison who will receive your Lordships commands respecting the further disposal of them and I take the liberty

of recommending him as a deserving Officer to your Lordship's protection.

I shall hope to be honored as early as possible with instructions from your Lordship for my future guidance, and have the honor to be,

With great respect,
My Lord;
Your Lordship's,
most obedient,
very Humble Servant,
J. C. Sherbrooke.
Letter Signed.

N:B: The Returns of Killed, wounded, and missing, and of Artillery and Ordnance Stores taken are enclosed.

To the
Right Honorable
The Earl Bathurst
&ca &ca &ca

P.S Sept. 13th

The Martin Sloop of War, which Rear Admiral Griffith is about to send to England, having been delayed, affords me an opportunity of informing Your Lordship, that I have received a private communication from Lt Col- Pilkington acquainting me, that he had landed at some distance from Macchias on the evening of the 10th Inst and after a very difficult night's march, that he had taken possession of the Fort, without loss, early the next morning.

Twenty four pieces of Ordnance of different calibres fell into our hands on this occasion, more than half of which, the Enemy had rendered unserviceable.

Brigadier General Brewer, who commands the Militia in this district, and some other respectable persons had sent a letter addressed to Lt Col. Pilkington and Captain Parker, of which the enclosed No 4 is a Copy; and the next day was appointed to receive these Gentlemen for the purpose

of accepting the terms therein offered.—L^{t} Col. Pilkington says that as soon as this is done he shall transmit me his official report, which I will forward to Your Lordship by the first opportunity. The L^{t} Colonel further mentions the great assistance he received from Captain Parker R.N. and the Naval Force employed under him: and says that the conduct of the Troops is deserving of great praise.

I have great pleasure in congratulating Your Lordship upon the whole of the Country between Penobscot River and Passamaquaddy Bay being now in our possession.

J. C. SHERBROOKE.

Endorsed: Castine Penobscot 10 Sep^{t} 1814
Lieu^{t} Gen. Sir J. Sherbrooke N^{o} 189
Re 8 Oct. by Major Addison
Four Inclosures

Archives, Nova Scotia, A. 151, p. 285.

(*Transcript from the original in the Public Record Office, London.*)

Enclosure. From Lieutenant Colonel John at Bangor to Sherbrooke at ——.

Bangor on the Penobscot River
September 3rd 1814

Sir

In compliance with your Excellencys orders of the 1st Ins^{t} I sailed from Castine, with the detachment of Royal Artillery, the Flank Companies of the 29th 62nd & 98th Reg^{t} and one Rifle Company of the 7th Batt^{n} 60th Reg^{t} which composed the force Your Excellency did me the Honor to place under my Command, for the purpose of co-operating with Captain Barrie of the Royal Navy in an expedition up this River.

On the morning of the 2nd having proceeded above the Town of Frankfort, we discovered some of the Enemy on their March towards Hampden by the Eastern Shore which induced me to order Brevet Major Croasdaile, with a detach^{t}

of the 98th and some Riflemen of the 60th Regt under Lieutt Wallace, to land and intercept them; which was accomplished. and that detachment of the Enemy, (as I have since learned) were prevented from joining the Main Body assembled at Hampden. On this occasion the Enemy had one Man Killed and some wounded.—Major Croasdaile re-embarked without any loss—We arrived off Bald Head Cove, three Miles distant from Hampden, about 5 °Clock that evening: when Captain Barrie agreed with me in determining to land the Troops immediately—

Having discovered that the Enemy's picquets were advantageously posted on the North side of the Cove, I directed Bt Major Riddle with the Grenadiers of the 62nd & Captn Ward with the Rifle Company of the 60th to dislodge them, and take up that Ground; which duty was performed under Major Riddles direction, in a most complete and satisfactory manner, by about 7 °Clock; & before 10 at Night the whole of the Troops, including Eighty Marines under Captain Carter (whom Captain Barrie had done me the honor to attach to my Command) were landed & bivouacked for the Night during which it rained incessantly. We got under Arms at 5 °Clock this Morning the Rifle Company forming the advance under Captain Ward:

Bt Major Keith with the Light company of the 62nd bringing up the Rear. And the detachment of Marines under Captain Carter moving upon my Flanks; while Captain Barrie, with the Ships and Gun Boats under his Command, advanced at the same time up the River on my right towards Hampden. In addition to the detachment of Royal Artillery under Lieut's Garston, Captain Barrie had landed One 6 pounder, a 6½ inch howitzer, and a Rocket apparatus, with a detachment of Sailors under Lieutenants Symonds, Botely & Slade & Mr Sparling Master of His Majesty's Ship Bulwark.

The Fog was so thick it was impossible to form a Correct idea of the features of the Country, or to reconnoitre the

Enemy, whose numbers were reported to be 1400, under the Command of Brigadier General Blake. Between 7 & 8 Clock our skirmishers in advance were so sharply engaged with enemy, as to induce me to send forward one half the Light Company of the 29th Regt under Captain Coaker, to their support. The Column had not advanced much farther before I discovered the Enemy drawn out in line, occupying a very strong & advantageous position in front of the Town of Hampden: his left flanked by a High hill commanding the Road & River, in which were mounted several heavy pieces of Cannon; His Right extending considerably beyond our left, resting upon a Strong point d'appui, with an eighteen pounder and some light Field pieces in advance of his Centre, so pointed as completely to rake the Road & a Narrow Bridge at the foot of a Hill, by which we were obliged to advance upon his position—As soon as he perceived our Column approaching he opened a very heavy & continued fire of grape and Musquetry upon us—we however soon crossed the Bridge, deployed and Charged up the Hill to get possession of his guns, one of which we found had already fallen into the hands of Captain Wards Riflemen in advance The Enemy's fire now began to slacken & we pushed on rapidly, and succeeded in driving him at all points from his position; while Captain Coaker with the Light Company of the 29th had gained possession of the Hill on his left, from whence it was discovered that the Adams Frigate was on fire & that the Enemy had deserted the Battery which defended her.

We were now in complete possession of the Enemy's position above, & Captain Barrie with the gun Boats had secured that below the Hill—Upon this occasion twenty pieces of Cannon fell into our hands of the Naval & Military Force, (a return of which I enclose) After which Captain Barrie & myself determined on pursuing the Enemy towards Bangor which place we reached without opposition & here two brass three pounders, and three stand of Colours fell

into our possession. Brigadier General Blake also in this Town surrendered himself a prisoner, & with other prisoners to the Number of 121—were admitted to their parole Eighty prisoners taken at Hampden are in our Custody The loss sustained by the Enemy I have not had it in my power correctly to ascertain—Report states it to be from 30 to 40 in Killed, Wounded & Missing, Our own loss I am happy to add is but small—viz 1 Rank & File killed, 1 Captain 7 Rank & File wounded, 1 Rank & File missing—Captain Gell of the 29th was wounded when leading the Column which deprived me of his active and useful Assistance—but I am happy to add he is recovering

I cannot close this dispatch without mentioning in the highest Terms all the Troops placed under my command they have merited my highest praise for their zeal & gallantry, which were conspicuous in the extreme—I feel most particularly indebted to Bt Major Riddle of the 62nd Regt second in Command, to Bt Major Keith of the same Regt; Bt Major Croasdaile & Captn McPherson of the 98th; Captains Gell & Coaker of the 29th & Captain Ward of the 7th Battn 60th Regt The Royal Artillery was directed in the most judicious manner by Lt Garston, from whom I derived the ablest support.

I cannot speak too highly of Captain Carter & the Officers & Marines immediately under his directions:—He moved them in the ablest Manner to the annoyance of the Enemy, and so as to meet my fullest approval.

Nothing could exceed the zeal & perseverance of Lieutenants Symonds, Botely, & Slade, & Mr Sparling of the Royal Navy, with the detachment of Seamen under their Command—

From Captain Barrie I have received the ablest assistance & support, & it is to his Masterly arrangement of the plan, that I feel indebted for its success. Nothing could be more cordial than the cooperation of the Naval & Military forces on this Service, in every instance—

Captain Carnegie of the Royal Navy, who most handsomely volunteered his services with this expedition, was in action with the Troops at Hampden & I feel most particularly indebted to him for his exertions, & the Assistance he afforded me on this occasion.

I am also greatly indebted to L^{t} Du Chatelet of the 7th Batt^{n} 60th Reg^{t} who acted as Major of Brigade to the Troops, in which capacity he rendered me very essential Service

I have the Honor to be Sir
Your Excellency's Most Obedient humble Servant
Henry John Lieu^{t} Cololonel

Archives, Nova Scotia, A. 151, p. 289.

Enclosure.

Return of Ordnance and Stores Taken

Castine 10th September 1814

			S.	R.	lb.
Guns	24 Pors	Iron	4	..	..
	18 ,,	Ship	27	..	..
	12 ,,		2	..	2
	3 ,,	Brass	4	..	..
Carriages	24 Pors	Traversing	4	..	..
	18 ,,	Standing	8	..	..
	12 ,,	Travelling with Limbers	2	..	..
	3 ,,	D° D°	4	..	..
Spunges	24 Pors		8	..	..
	18 ,,	Rope with Staves	12	..	..
			8	..	..
	12 ,,		2	..	..
	3 ,,		2	2	..
Ladles	24 Pors		2	..	..
	12 ,,		2	1	..
	3 ,,		1	..	..
Wadhooks	24 Pors		2	1	..
	12 ,,		2	..	..
	3 ,,		3	..	..
Shot Round	24 Pors		236	..	..
	18 ,,		500	..	..
Waggon	Ammn		..	1	..
Cart			..	1	..
Handspikes	Common		12	..	..
Powder	WB		40	..	..
Wads	24 Pors		20	..	..
	18 ,,		70	..	..

N.B. The Magazine in Fort Castine was blown up by the Enemy.

The Vessel on board of which the Powder was ran on Shore and the whole distroyed.

Eleven of the 18 Pors were distroyed by the order of Lieut[t] Col[l] John not having time to bring them off.

G W. Crawford Major
Com[g] R[l] Artilly.
Return Signed

To
Lieut[t] General
Sir John Sherbrooke
&c &c &c

Archives, Nova Scotia, A 151, p. 291.

Enclosure.

Return of Killed, Wounded, and Missing in the Affair at Hampden on the 3[rd] September 1814 with the Force under the Command of L[t] Col[l] John, 60[th] R[t]

Killed— 29[th] Reg[t] 1 Rank and file.
Wounded—29[th] Reg[t] 1 Captain and 2 Rank and file.
62[nd] Reg[t] . . 1 D[o] . . .
98[th] Reg[t] . . 4 D[o] . . .
Missing— 62[nd] Reg[t] . . 1 Rank and file .

Names of Officers Wounded.—
Capt[n] Gell, 29[th] Grenadiers severely but not dangerously ——————

A. Pilkington
D[y] Adj[t] Gen[l]
Return Signed.

Archives : War of 1812, *Admirals' Despatches,* 1814 (M. 389–5), p. 94.

(*Transcript from the original in the Public Record Office, London.*)

From Rear Admiral Griffith to Admiral Sir Alexander Cochrane.

His Majesty's Ship Endymion,
off Castine, Entrance of the
Penobscot River, 9th September
1814.

Sir,

My letter No. 40 of the 23d August, from Halifax by the Rover will have made you acquainted with my intention of Accompanying the Expedition then about to proceed under the Command of His Excellency Sir John Sherbrooke, K.B. for this place :—I have now the honor to inform you that I put to sea on the 26th Ult°, with the Ships and Sloop named in the Margin, and ten sail of Transports having the Troops on board and arrived off the Metimicas islands on the morning of the 31st where I was joined by the Bulwark, Tenedos, Rifleman, Peruvian and Picton. From Captain Pearce of the Rifleman I learnt that the United States Frigate Adams had a few days before got into Penobscot, but not considering herself in safety there, had gone on to Hampden, a place twenty-seven Miles higher up the River, where her Guns had been landed and a position was fortifying for her protection.

Dragon
Endymion
Bacchante
Sylph.

Towards the evening the wind being fair and the weather favorable, the Fleet made sail up the Penobscot Bay, Captain Parker in the Tenedos leading, he passed between the Metimicas and Green islands about midnight, and turning through the Channel formed by the Fox islands and Owls head, ran up to the Eastward of Long island and found ourselves at daylight in the morning in sight of the Fort and Town of Castine.

As we approached some shew of resistance was made, and a few shot were fired, but the fort was soon after abandoned and blown up :—At about 8 AM. the Men of War and Trans-

ports were anchored a little to the Northward of the Peninsula of Castine, and the smaller Vessels taking a station nearer in for covering the landing, the Troops were put on Shore, and took possession of the Town and Works without opposition.

The General wishing to occupy a Post at Belfast on the Western side of the Bay (through which the high road for Boston ran) for the purpose of cutting off all communication with that side of the Country, the Bacchante and Rifleman were detached with the Troops destined for this Service, and quiet possession was taken, and held of that town, as long as was thought necessary.

Arrangements were immediately made for attacking the Frigate at Hampden and the General having proffered every Military assistance, six hundred picked men under the command of Lieu^{t}. Colonel John of the 60th Regiment were embarked the same afternoon on board His Majesty's Sloops Peruvian and Sylph, and a small Transport. To this force were added the Marines of the Dragon, and as many armed Boats from the Squadron as was thought necessary for disembarking the Troops and covering their landing; And the whole placed under the command of Captain Barrie of the Dragon and the Lieutenant Colonel, made sail up the river at Six O'Clock that Morning.

I have the honor to enclose Captain Barrie's account of his proceedings, and taking into consideration the Enemy's force and the formidable strength of his position too much praise cannot be given him, the Officers and men under his Command, for their judgment, decision and gallantry with which this little enterprize has been achieved.

See letter of 3rd Sept 1814. Enclosure to No 44 of the 11th Sept 1814.

So soon as accounts were received from Captain Barrie that the Adams was destroyed, and the force assembled for her protection dispersed, the Troops stationed at Belfast were embarked, and arrangements made for sending them to take possession of Machias, the only place occupied by the Enemy's Troops, between this and Passamaquoddy

Bay.—I directed Captain Parker of the Tenedos to receive on board Lieu[t]. Colonel Pilkington, Deputy Adjutant General, who is appointed to Command, and a small detachment of Artillery and Riflemen, and to take under his command the Bacchante, Rifleman, and Picton Schooner, and proceed to the attack of that place.—He sailed on the 6[th] instant and most likely by this time the Troops are in possession of it :— After destroying the defences they are directed to return here.

The inhabitants of several Townships East of this place have sent deputations here to tender their submission to the British Authority, and such of them as could give reasonable security that their arms would be used only for the protection of their persons and property, have been allowed to retain them. This indulgence was absolutely necessary in order to secure the quiet and unoffending against violence and outrage from their less peaceable neighbours, and for the maintenance of the peace and tranquility of the Country. All property on shore *bona fide* belonging to the Inhabitants of the Country in our possession has been respected, all public property and all property afloat has been confiscated.

Sir John Sherbrooke conceiving it to be of importance that the Government should be informed without delay of our successes here, has requested that a Vessel of War may take his Dispatches to England.

I have in compliance with his wishes appropriated the Martin for that Service, and Captain Genhouse will take a Copy of this Letter to the Secretary of the Admiralty.

Rear Admiral Milne in the Bulwark will be left here with the Peruvian, and I propose returning to Halifax without delay in the Endymion.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient
humble Servant
(Signed) Edw[d] Griffith

Archives : War of 1812, *Admirals, Despatches,* 1814 (*M.* 389–5), p. 94.

(*Transcript from the original in the Public Record Office, London.*)

Enclosure. From Captain Robert Barrie to Griffith.

Copy

His Majˢ Sloop Sylph
off Bangor, in the Penobscott
3rd Septᵗ 1814.

Sir

Having received on board the Ships named in the Margin, a detachment of Twenty men of the Royal Artillery, with one 5½ inch Howitzer, commanded by Lieutᵗ Garston ;—a party of Eighty Marines, commanded by Capᵗ Carter of the Dragon ;—the flank companies of the 29th 62d & 98th regᵗ under the commands of Captns Gell, & Caker,—Majors Riddle, Keith & Crossdaill, and Captain McPherson ; also a rifle Company of the 7th Battalion of the 60th regiment, commanded by Capᵗ Ward, & the whole under the orders of Lieutᵗ Colⁿ John of the 60th regᵗ, I proceeded agreeable to your order, with the utmost dispatch up the Penobscot.—Light Variable winds, a most intricate Channel, of which we were perfectly ignorant, and thick foggy weather, prevented my arriving off Frankfort before 2 PM of the 2d inst. Here Colonel John and myself thought it advisable to send a message to the Inhabitants, and having received their answer, we pushed on towards Hamden where we received intelligence that the Enemy had strongly fortified himself. On our way up several troops were observed on the East side of the River making for Brewer.—These were driven into the Woods without any loss on our side, by a party under the orders of Major Crosdaile, and the guns from the Boats.—The Enemy had one killed and several wounded.

H.M.S. Peruvian
„ Sylph
„ Dragons Tender
and the Harmony
Transport.

At 5 P.M of the 2nd instant, we arrived off Ball's Head Cove, distant 3 miles from Hamden, Colonel John and

myself landed on the South side of the cove to reconnoitre the ground and obtain intelligence.—Having gained the hills, we discovered the Enemys Picquets advantageously posted near the Highway leading to Hamden, on the north side of the Cove. We immediately determined to land One Hundred and fifty men, under Major Riddall to drive in the Picquets & take up their ground. This object was obtained by 7 o'clock and notwithstanding every difficulty, the whole of the Troops were landed on the North side of the Cove by 10 o'clock; but it was found impossible to land the Artillery at the same place.—The Troops bivouac'd on the ground taken possession of by Major Riddall.—It rained incessantly during the night. At day break this morning the fog cleared away for about a quarter of an hour, which enabled me to reconnoitre the Enemy by Water; and I found a landing place for the Artillery about $\frac{2}{3}$ of a mile from Ball's Head.—Off this place the Troops halted 'till the Artillery were mounted and by Six the whole advanced towards Hamden. The Boats under the immediate command of Lieu^{t} Pedler the first of the Dragon, agreeable to a previous arrangement with Colonel John, advanced in line with the Right Flank of the Army. The Peruvian, Sylph, Dragons Tender & Harmony Transport were kept a little in the rear in reserve.

Our information stated the Enemy's force at 1400 Men, & He had chosen a most excellent position—On a high hill about a quarter of a mile to the Southward of the Adams Frigate, he had mouuted eight 18 prs. This Fort was calculated to command both the highway by which our Troops had to advance, and the River.—On a Wharf close to the Adams, he had mounted fifteen 18 pounders, which completely commanded the River, which at this place is not above three Cables lengths wide, and the land on each side is high and well wooded. A Rocket Boat under my immediate direction, but manœuvred by M^{r} Ginton Gunner & M^{r}

Small, Mid of the Dragon was advanced about a quarter of a mile ahead of the line of Boats. So soon as the Boats got within Gunshot, the Enemy opened his fire upon them from the Hill & Wharf which was warmly returned. Our Rockets were generally well directed & evidently threw the Enemy into confusion. Mean time our Troops stormed the Hill with the utmost gallantry. Before the Boats got within good grape shot of the Wharf Battery, the Enemy set fire to the Adams—and he ran from his Guns the moment our Troops carried the Hill.

I joined the Army about ten minutes after this event, Colonel John and myself immediately determined to leave a sufficient force in possession of the Hill, and to pursue the Enemy, who was then in sight in the Bangor Road, flying at full speed. The boats and Ships pushed up the River preserving their original position with the Army. The Enemy was too nimble for us & most of them escaped into the Woods, on our left.

On approaching Bangor the Inhabitants who had opposed us at Hamden, threw off their Military character, and as Magistrates, select men &c made an unconditional surrender of the Town. Here the pursuit stopped. About two hours afterwards Brigadier General Blake came into the Town to deliver himself as a prisoner. The General and other prisoners amounting to One hundred and ninety one, were admitted to their parole.

Enclosed, I have the honor to forward to you lists of the Vessels we have captured or destroyed and other necessary reports.—I am happy to inform you, our loss consists only of one Seaman belonging to the Dragon killed : Captain Gell of the 29th and Seven privates wounded, one rank and file Missing.

I cannot close my report without expressing my highest admiration of the very gallant conduct of Col. John, the Officers and Soldiers under his command, for exclusive of

the Battery before mentioned, they had difficulties to contend with on their left which did not fall under my observation, as the Enemy's field pieces in that direction were masked.—The utmost cordiality existed between the two Services, and I shall ever feel obliged to Colonel John for his ready Co-operation in Everything that was proposed. The Officers and men bore the privations inseparable from our confined means of accommodation, with a cheerfulness that entitles them to my warmest thanks.

Though the Enemy abondoned his batteries before the ships could be brought to act against them, yet I am not the less obliged to Captains Kippen and Dickens of the Peruvian and Sylph, Acting Lieutenant Pearson who commanded the Dragons Tender, Lieut. Woodin of the Dragon, and M^r^ Barnett Master of the Harmony. Their zeal and indefatigable exertions, in bringing up their Vessels thro' the most intricate navigation, were eminently conspicuous.

Colonel John speaks highly in praise of the conduct of Cap^t^ Carter and the detachment of Royal Marines under his orders; and also of the Seamen attached to the Artillery under the command of Lieutenant Simmonds, Motley, and Slate, and M^r^ Spurling, Master of the Bulwark.

I have on other occasions of service found it a pleasing part of my duty to commend the services of Lieu^t^ Pedler first of the Dragon.—In this instance he commanded the boat part of the expedition, most fully to my satisfaction. He was ably seconded by Lieu^ts^ Perceval of the Tenedos and Ormond of the Endymion, and M^r^ Ansell, Masters Mate of the Dragon, This last Gentleman has passed his examination nearly five years, and is an Active Officer, well worthy of your patronage; but in particularizing him, I do not mean to detract from the other Petty Officers and Seamen employed in the Boats, for they all most zealously performed their duty, and are equally entitled to my warmest acknowledgments;

I am also most particularly indebted to the active and zealous exertions of Lieutenant Carnagie, who was a Volunteer on this occasion.

I can form no estimate of the Enemy's absolute loss. From different Stragglers I learn, that exclusive of Killed and missing upwards of thirty lay wounded in the woods.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
your most obd[t] Humble Serv[t]
ROB[T] BARRIE.

Captain of H.M.S. Dragon,
& Senior Officer of His Majesty's
Royal Naval force employed up
the Penobscot River.

List of Vessels captured and destroyed in the Penobscot and of those left on the Stocks as near as I can be able to ascertain.

2. Ships
1. Brig.
6. Schooners
3. Sloops.
} Captured & brought away.

Destroyed at Hampden, the Adams Frigate of 26 guns—18 p[rs] and 2 Ships, one of them armed, burnt by the Enemy.

At Bangor, 1 Ship, 1 Brig, 3 Schooners and 1 Sloop burnt by us.

Lost since in our possession, a Copper bottomed Brig pierced for 18 Guns and the Decatur Privateer pierced for 16 Guns.—Note, the Powder & Wine captured at Hampden is put on board these Vessels.

Left on the Stocks at Bangor, 2 Ships, 2 Brigs & 2 Schooners
At Beaver, 1 Ship, 1 Brig, and 1 Schooner.

At Arrington, 1 Ship, 1 Schooner on the Stocks.
*Left at Frankford, on the Stocks—1 Schooner and some small Craft.

(Signed) R. Barrie

/A Copy
Edw[D] Griffith

To
Rear Adm[l] Griffith

* Left at Hampden, 1 Ship, 1 hermaphrodite Brig, and 2 Schooners also 1 Brig and 1 Schooner on the Stocks.

Return of Ordnance taken from the Enemy on the 3[d] day of September, 1814.

Taken at Hampden.	18 pounders Iron.	23 N°
	12 „ „	2
		25
	18. pounders destroyed.	11.
	Brought away.	14.
Taken at Bangor & brought away	3. Pounders Brass, Guns	2.
	3. „ Iron „	1.
	Total brought away.	17 N°

Embarked One Ammunition Cart.
500 Eighteen pound Shot.
About 40 Barrels of Powder and a quantity of Wads &[c] &[c]

(Signed) Robert Garten,
Lieu[t] Royal Artillery

A Copy
Robert Barrie

Return of Small Arms not collected, supposed about One hundred.

Edw[D] Griffith

Archives, C. 685, p. 278.

From Pilkington at Machias to Sherbrooke at ——.

Machias September 14th
1814

Sir/

I have the Honor to acquaint your Excellency that I sailed from Penobscot Bay with the Brigade you was pleased to place under my Command, consisting of a Detachment of Royal Artillery with a Howitzer; the Battalion Companies of the 29th Regt and a Party of the 7th Battn of the 60th Regt on the Morning of the 9th Inst and arrived at Bucks Harbour about Ten Miles from this Place on the following Evening—

As the Enemy fired several Alarm Guns on our approaching the Anchorage, it was evident he was apprehensive of an Attack; I therefore deemed it expedient to disembark the Troops with as little Delay as possible, & Captn Hyde Parker Commanding the Naval Forces appointed Captn Stanfell to superintend this Duty, and it was executed by that Officer with the utmost Promptitude and Precision.

Upon reaching the Shore I ascertained that there was a Pathway through the Woods by which we could advance & take Fort O'Brien & the Battery in Reverse; & as the Guns of these Works commanded the Passage of the River upon which the Town is situated, I decided upon possessing ourselves of them if practicable during the Night.

We moved forward at Ten O'Clock P.M. and after a most tedious and harassing March only arrived near to the Fort at Break of Day, although the Distance does not exceed five Miles.

The advanced Guard which consisted of two Companies of the 29th Regt & a Detachment of Riflemen of the 60th Regt under Major Tod of the former Corps, immediately drove in the Enemy's Piquet, and upon pursuing him closely, found the Fort had been evacuated leaving their Colours about five Minutes before we entered it—Within it, and the

Battery there are 2–24 Pounders, 3–18 Pounders, several dismounted Guns, & a Blockhouse.—The Party which escaped amounted to about 70 Men of the 40 Reg[t] of American Infantry & 30 of the imbodied Militia. The Retreat was so rapid, that I was not enabled to take many Prisoners. I understand there were a few Wounded, but they secreted themselves in the Woods.—

Having secured the Fort we lost no Time in advancing upon Machias, which was taken without any Resistance, and also two field Pieces.—

The Boats of the Squadron under the Command of L[t] Bouchier of the R[l] Navy, and the Royal Marines under Lieu[t] Welchman, were detached to the Eastern Side of the River, & were of essential Service in taking two Field Pieces in that Quarter.

Understanding that the Militia were not assembled to any Extent in the Vicinity of the Town, I was making the requisite arrangements to advance into the interior of the Country; when I received a Letter from Brigadier General Brewer Commanding the District, (a copy of which is herewith enclosed) wherein he engages that the Militia Forces within the County of Washington shall not bear Arms, or in any Way serve against His Britannic Majesty during the present War—A similar offer having been made by the civil Officers, & principal Citizens of the County, a Cessation of Arms was agreed upon; & the County of Washington has passed under the Dominion of His Britannic Majesty.

I beg Leave to congratulate you upon the Importance of this Accession of Territory which has been wrested from the Enemy.—It embraces about one Hundred Miles of Sea Coast, & includes that intermediate Tract of Country which separates the Province of New Brunswick from Lower Canada.

We have taken 26 Pieces of Ordnance (serviceable & unserviceable) with a Proportion of Arms & Ammunition, Returns of which are enclosed; and I have the pleasing

Satisfaction to add that this Service has been effected without the Loss of a Man on our Part.

I cannot refrain from expressing in the strongest manner the admirable Steadiness & good Conduct of the 29th Reg under Major Hodge. The Advance under Major Tod are also entitled to my warmest Thanks—

A Detachment of 30 Seamen from H.M.S. Bacchante under Mr Bruce Masters Mate were attached to the Rl Artillery under the Command of Lieut Daniels of that Corps, for the Purpose of dragging the Howitzers, as no other means could be procured to bring it forward; and to their unwearied Exertions, and the judicious Arrangements of Lieut Daniel, I am indebted for having a 5½ Inch Howitzer conveyed through a Country the most difficult of Access I ever witnessed.—

To Captn Parker of H.M.S. Tenedos who commanded the Squadron which co-operated with me upon this Occasion, I feel every Obligation; and I can assure you the most cordial Understanding has subsisted between the two Branches of the Service.—

I have the Honor to be,
Sir,
Your faithful and most
Obdt Servant
A. Pilkington
Lt Col Dy Adjt Genl

Archives, C. 685, p. 276.

Enclosure. Capitulation of County of Washington.

Copy

To Lieutenant Colonel Andrew Pilkington Commanding the Land Forces and Captain Hyde Parker commanding the Naval Force of His Britannic Majesty now at Machias.

Gentlemen/

The Forces under your Command having Captured the Forts in the neighbourhood of Machias and taken possession

of the Territory adjacent within the County of Washington, and the situation of the County being such between the Penobscot River and Passamaquoddy Bay as to preclude the hope that an adequate force can be furnished by the United States for its Protection—We propose a Capitulation and offer for ourselves and in behalf of the Officers and Soldiers of the Brigade within the County of Washington to give our Parole of Honour that we will not directly or indirectly bear Arms, or in any way serve against His Britannic Majesty King George the third King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland his Successors and Allies during the present War between Great Britain and the United States: Upon condition we have your assurance that while we remain in this situation and consider ourselves under the British Government until further orders, we shall have the safe and full enjoyment of our private Property and be protected in the exercise of our usual occupations.

Signed

JOHN BREWER Brigadier Gen^{l} 2nd Brigade 10th Division for the Officers and Soldiers of the 3^{d} Reg^{t} in said Brigade.

JAMES CAMPBELL, L^{t} Col Comd^{g} 1st Reg^{t} 2nd Brigade 10th Division for himself Officers and Soldiers in said Regiment.

These Terms have been granted and approved of by us.

Signed A. PILKINGTON

HYDE PARKER L^{t} Col Command^{g}

Captain H.M.S. Tenedos.

Machias 13th Sep^{r} 1814.

(A true Copy)

A. PILKINGTON

Archives, C. 685, p. 273.

Enclosure.

Return of Ordnance, Arms, Ammunition &c taken at Machias by the Troops under the command of Lieu^{tt} Col^{l} Pilkington, Sept^{r} 11th 1814

Ordnance

Fort O'Brien

2—18 P^{rs} Mounted on Garrison Car^{gs} complete
1—18 P^{rs} Carronade d^{o} d^{o}
1—24 P^{rs} dismounted, serviceable
1—18 P^{rs} Carronade d^{o}

Point Battery

2—24 P^{rs} Mounted on Garrison Carriages Complete

East Machias—

2—4 P^{rs} Brass Guns, on travelling Car^{gs}. Complete

Mahias—

2—4 P^{rs} Iron Guns on travelling d^{o} d^{o}

5—24 P^{rs}
10—18 Carron^{ds} } Rendered partly unserviceable by the Enemy and completely destroyed by us

Total 26—

Arms

Musquets	Bayonets	Pouches	Belts	Drums
161	99	100	41	2

Ammunition

20 Barrels serviceable Gun Powder
75 Paper Cartrid^{gs} filled for (18 & 24 P^{rs})

2938 Musquet Ball cartridge
3 Barrels grape and Case shot
553 Round shot (18 & 24 Prs)
6 Cags Gun Powder, 25 lbs each
28 Paper Cartridges (Iron 4 Prs)

To
Lieut Col Pilkington
&c &c &c

H. V. Daniel Lieut
Royal Artillery
A. Col. Com.

NARRATIVE DOCUMENTS

GROUP XI (*continued*)

BRITISH COUNTER-INVASION OF THE UNITED STATES, 1814

2. Plattsburg, September 11, 1814

Archives, C. 732, p. 68.

From Croker at the Admiralty Office to Downie at Portsmouth.

Copy Admiralty Office 1st March 1814
Sir

I am commanded by my Lords Commrs of the Admiralty to acquaint you that they have directed Admiral Sir Richd Bickerton to cause the Officers Seamen and Artificers ordered to be assembled at Portsmouth for a particular Service to be divided between the Ceylon, Penelope and Dover Troop

Ships in equal proportions according to the Ratings of the Officers and Seamen and the qualifications of the Artificers furnishing you with a Copy of the distribution he may accordingly make.—

I am further to acquaint you that the said Ships will be ordered to convey you with these Officers and Men to Quebec, and I am to signify their Lordships directions to you on your arrival at that place to apprize forthwith Commodore Sir James Lucas Yeo Com[r] in Chief on the Lakes of Canada of your being arrived and of the number of Officers Seamen and Artificers who may be landed with you and to apply immediately to the Government at Quebec for the means to enable you the most expeditiously to proceed with them to join the Commodore and put yourself and the Detachment under your orders under his command.

It is their Lordships' particular direction that you pay the most exact attention to the Comforts and discipline of the Men, and take every means to ensure their joining Sir James Yeo in a state of efficiency.—

I have &c
(Signed) J. W. Croker

Archives, M. 897.

From Alicia Cockburn, Montreal, to Charles Sandys, Esqre, St. George's Place, Canterbury.

Montreal
June 28[th] 1814

My dear Charles,

I am constantly disappointed on opening my Mother's pacquettes at not finding a letter from you, and altho' it is perhaps unreasonable to expect it, when your time is occupied by so much more important avocations, still I am selfish

enough to repine at never hearing from you.—I am at present meditating a Journey to Upper Canada, and even a trip into the United States in a Flag of Truce, which to do the Yankees justice they treat with uncommon civility especially when born by Ladies, whom they allow to go much farther, and peep about much more, than we should do in a similar case, whatever might be their beauty & accomplishments. My *noble Lord* marched three days since for his old station Cornwall, where he has the command, & I am going on his *special invitation*—indeed since I began this, I have a letter from him dated on the road, desiring me to come up as soon as I can, as the Country is so beautiful that he wishes me to see it, as I was only there in Winter ; and that Season altho' equally fine in this part of the World, presents a totally different style of landscape. I am greatly amused by the English papers stating " The roads are become so bad by the recent fall of snow &c "—which in Canada is just the thing that we pray for, and which makes our roads so good.—I have no doubt you felt the severity of the season much more than we do here, from the detestable damp of your foggy Island, and the want of Stoves and double Windows to keep the Houses warm,—however you cannot have had the Thermometer 35 below nothing, as we constantly have it here, or the *cutting cold* which can only be felt to form an idea of.—The Summer is very fine, and not so overpowering from heat as last year, but it is *hot enough*, and will be considerably more so, as it is always some degrees hotter than the West Indies, without the evening breezes you get there. I am so *beautifully brown*, & my hair grown so dark, that I propose sitting for my picture in the character of an *Indian Princess* without more delay.—We are expecting an attack hereabouts.—

It is something like the French invasion ; the war is at an end without its ever having come to pass, & such will be the case here. All is bustle however in the neighbouring Camp—Guns—Drums—Bugles—Horse—Foot—Brigadiers — Grena-

diers—& Fuzileers — Right — Left — here — there — march — halt — wheel — double-quick — tumble down — tumble up —fire away—thus they "keep moving" and a most moving scene it is, but I think if I commanded, I would move it a *little nearer the enemy*.—however there are some worthy people who have the happy knack of discovering *danger* long before its approach, and *wisely* determine to take every measure save that of running into it,—they bear in mind the *old Poem*

He who fights & runs away,
May live to fight another day,
But he who is in Battle slain,
Will never rise to fight again.—

Two Regts. are just arrived from Bourdeaux, (the 6th & 82^{d}) and we have a list of seventeen more, intended for the Coast, therefore if we do not now make Peace, on *this* side, before the gates of Plattsburg, or on the *other* amidst the ruins of New York, I think we may as well make the enemy a handsome present of Canada & since we can gain no other credit, content ourselves with that of generosity.—When are all our accounts with Henry to be settled ? I drew on Alex^{r} Cockburn for £50—on the 15th of June, & desired Broughton in case he had left England (which I hope, & believe he has not) to consult with you how to accept the Draft 'till you can get at him, but I do not imagine there is any need for the precaution—however the very idea of a Draft being returned in a strange place makes one doubly cautious.—I write to my dear Mother, & Mary, from whom I have charming letters up to the 3^{d} of April.—Pray remember us both k ndly to Edwin—the Pierces—& all our old friends, & Believe me

My dear Charles,
Your very affec^{t} Cousin,
Alicia Cockburn

Archives, C. 1171, p. 302.

Head Quarters
G.O. Chambly 29th June 1814

The Head Quarters of the Army Serving in the North American Provinces will be moved to Montreal on Friday 1st July 1814.

Archives, C. 231, p. 96.

From Prevost at Montreal to Baynes at ——.

Secret Head Quarters Montreal
12th July 1814

Sir/

It being desirable that in conducting the business of this Army, which is now rapidly encreasing to a formidable extent that every difficulty and impediment in the way of the Service should be removed ; The Board of Officers of which you are President ordered to assemble this day will take into consideration and report upon such matters or points of Service, which you may deem essential in furthering this important object ;—

You are required to consider in a General Scale the present Mode of supplying the Troops with Money, Stores and Provisions, and to submit such alterations or improvements in the System as may be likely to facilitate the Service, and tend to the comfort of the Soldier—and whether it would be expedient to add Rum to the Ration to the Troops, what quantity and under what circumstances ;—

You will also take a view of the different departments of the Army, and offer any observations which may occur to you, as to the propriety of strengthening their respective Establishments and to what extent.

As the objects upon which I require the consideration of

this board are of a nature *private* and *confidential*, and intended for my own satisfaction, it is necessary your proceedings should be conducted in a manner corresponding with this intention, tho' you are at liberty to call upon such officers as you think proper, as evidences or for information touching the points to which your attention may be directed.—

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Most Obedient
humble Servant,
GEORGE PREVOST
Commander of the Forces.

The Board of Officers to consist of

The Adjutant General
The Quarter Master General
The Commissary General &
The Military Secretary.

Archives, C. 231, p. 99.

[ENDORSEMENT] REPORT OF THE BOARD OF OFFICERS

Montreal 12 July 1814

The Board of Officers having met this day in obedience to the orders of The Commander of the Forces, and attentively perused the Secret communication contained in His Excellency's Letter to the President of this date, and having taken into consideration the Several points to which it alludes ; The Board is of opinion that the General regulations in force for forwarding the Service of the Army in the Canadas, are correct and sufficient in principle, but may be facilitated by the following Modifications, which the Board beg leave to recommend ;—

That all Camp Equipage and Articles of Field Equipment connected with the Department of the Quarter Master General be issued by the Commissariat upon the requisition of any Officer of the Quarter Master General's Department, whose receipt shall be a sufficient Voucher.

That the requisitions of the Quarter Master General or any Officer of that department for Carts for the Public Service, with the Certificate of Performance, of the department or Regiment, be sufficient Voucher for the payment of such Carts, without being again returned to the Office of the Quarter Master General.

That the returns for Bat and Forage, and the allowance in lieu of forage for Horses to the Staff & Corps, should be made up and sent in to the Quarter Master General's Office by Departments and Corps in Abstracts accompanied by their Certificates as Vouchers, and not individually as frequently is the case.—

That the Troops be supplied with Arms and Ammunition by the Ordnance Department upon a requisition of the Corps requiring those Articles, by the Approval of the Adjutant General, or in his absence the Officer of his Department on the Spot.

That appointments and accoutrements be furnished to the Troops requiring them upon requisitions to be transmitted to the Military Secretary to the Commander of the Forces, or to the Military Secretary to the Lieut. General Commanding in Upper Canada.—

That the Board deem it expedient and advisable that Rum should be issued to the Troops serving in the Canadas, at the rate of one Gill to each effective Regimental Officer, Non-Commissioned Officer & Private per day, to be notified by a General Order stating that the Commander of the forces anxious to afford to the Soldier every comfort which the arduous duties of the Service may require is pleased to sanction this issue in all situations where it can be promised, the

Soldier being made clearly to understand he is to consider this an indulgence and gratuity and not forming a part of his regular ration ;—

No back allowance of Rum should on any account be granted ; and it is submitted that General Officers should exercise a discretion in withholding this indulgence when they deem it necessary.

That the arrangements adopted for the supply of the Troops in the Canadas with Money, Stores and Provisions appear sufficient for the Service, provided the means of Transport to the Upper Province can be furnished equal to the demand, but it is recommended that the Public batteaux Establishment between Montreal and Kingston be encreased to as great an extent as is possible during the present navigation ; To this end, it is proposed that the Commissary General be authorized to procure as many additional batteaux as can be had, and the Men to navigate them to be furnished from the Militia ; the Corvées being inadequate to the present demand must consequently fall far short for any increase to the Establishment.—

The Board having taken a view of the State of the different departments, and the probable increase to the Army in this Country beg leave to recommend as respects that of the Quarter Master General, that One Assistant, and four Deputy Assistants be added to meet the wants of the Service, and such Clerks as may be deemed necessary ;

Increase
Q Mr Genls Dept
1 Asst — Cockbu]
4 Dy Assts
Clerks.

With regard to that of the Adjutant General it is submitted as expedient, that an Assistant be added, to be stationed with the Right Division in Upper Canada, and two Deputy Assistants one for Quebec, and the other as additional to the Head Quarters for making up the returns of the Office ;— The Returns and records of this department being much in arrear an additional Clerk is required at the Head Quarters, and it is recommended in order to facilitate the circulation of Orders to this Army, and to remove the labor of preparing

Adjt Genls
1 Asst — Glegg
2 Dy Assts
1 Clerk.

in manuscript the numbers of Copies required, as well as to economize Stationary, which is with much difficulty obtained in the detached Stations, that all General Orders of any extent be printed ;—

Mil Secys 2 Clerks

The Military Secretary's department in consequence of the encrease of force in the Country will require an addition of at least two respectable Clerks.—

That the Clerks for the foregoing departments being required to be Persons of respectable Characters and well qualified for their situations, it is recommended that the first Clerk should be placed at 10/- the Second at 7/6 and the Juniors at 6/6 each, per day.

Commissariat

The Commissariat at present insufficient for the expected increase to this Army, will require to be augmented in proportion to the force arriving ;—Two Officers have been announced for this Command and the Commissary General will submit the names of such additional Clerks and Conductors as may be necessary or can be procured in the Country ;

Acct Departmt Commissariat

—The Account branch of the Commissariat will also require a proportionate increase of assistance and the Deputy Commissary General of Accounts should be called upon to state what may be required.—

Medl Dept

The Board presumes the Inspector of Hospitals will be called upon to require additional aid in case the Medical board in England do not anticipate his wants.

Barrack Dept Genl Stores

The Barrack Department in the Canadas has long wanted some material addition to its Establishment, and it is more essentially necessary at this moment to meet the encreasing demands in that branch of the Service. The Board beg to recommend the Establishment of a General Barrack Store

Quebec Montreal Kingston Storekeeper Clerk & Issuer each

at Quebec, Montreal and Kingston with a permanent Storekeeper, Clerk and Issuer to each, from which all Troop should be supplied, even those cantonned under the Superintendance of the Quarter Master—the inefficient Officers of this Department whose duties have encreased beyond their capacities

should be replaced by those qualified for the duties required of them.—

All which is respectfully submited.—

Sidney Beckwith
Q M Gen^l
W. H. Robinson
Com^y Gen^l
Noah Freer
Mil Secretary

Archives, C. 788, p. 16.

From L^t Col. Williams, Royal Marines, at Isle aux Noix to Prevost at ——.

Isle aux Noix July 14, 1814.

Sir,

It was with much regret that I read the intentions of the Board of Admiralty to remove me from under your Excellency's Command, more especially as at the time when those directions were given, a body of Marines to any amount might have been furnished for the purposes of Sir Alexander Cochrane & Sir James Yeo.

Their Lordships not being in the habit of giving to Officers, however high their rank, the liberty of fixing the complement of their Ships, but in all cases of allotting a specified number of Seamen and Marines to each class of Vessel, there can be no doubt but that Commodore Sir James Yeo has their Lordships particular Instructions on that head, with respect to the Ships and Vessels on the Lakes; and by common report the Marine Complement of the Linnet brig upon the Richelieu does not exceed one Serjeant and Eighteen privates. There are however not less than a hundred Men from the Battalion in the brig and the two Sloops. As there can be no want of Seamen now, it becomes unnecessary that there should be so large a complement of Marines, and no where

but in Canada have the Marines been employed to row Gunboats.

Your Excellency I trust will do me the justice to believe that we are ready for any Service that may be required, whether in Vessels or in boats, but if the necessity of extra-ordinary Service has ceased owing to the peace in Europe, such an employment of the Men might probably be dispensed with. I am desirous of taking the Battalion to Sir Alex[r] Cochrane as strong as possible, and of fulfilling the intentions of the Board of Admiralty ; but I can clearly perceive, by the appropriation of the men of the 2[d] Batt[n] that, if Authority unrestrained by Admiralty regulations is permitted to be exercised by Sir James Yeo, the portion of Men of the 1[st] Battalion will be small that will proceed to Bermuda—

I have the honor to be Sir
Your Excellency's
Most obedient hbl[e] Servant
R. Williams

Archives, C. 685, p. 26.

From Kempt at Brandy Pots [in the St. Lawrence, 115 miles below Quebec] to Prevost at ——.

H.M. Ship Vengeur
Brandy Pots 2[nd] Aug[t] 1814,—

Sir,

I have the honor to report to You My arrival here With the Brigade of Infantry and one Brigade of Artillery Under my Command in obedience to Orders Received from Lt. General the Earl of Dalhousie of which the enclosed is a Copy.

The Necessary Returns of the Troops Embarked Will be immediately forwarded to the Adjutant General for Your Excellencys information :—almost all the transports have already passed up the River, and I shall proceed to Quebec the Moment that I can procure a Conveyance for the Ships

of War do not go higher up than this Anchorage & Captain Schomberg of the York (Senior Officer) has permitted all the Convoy to pass Without obtaining (as I concluded he would do) one of the Transports to take up General Robinson & myself.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your Most Obedient &
Most Humble Servant,
JAMES KEMPT
M. Gen[l]

Archives, Q. 128–1, p. 137.

(*Transcript from the original in the Public Record Office, London.*)

From Prevost at Montreal to Bathurst, Downing St.

N° 184. Head Quarters Montreal
5[th] August 1814.

My Lord

Intelligence has just reached me that Commodore Chauncey's Squadron was under weigh and coming out of Sacketts Harbour on the 1[st] Inst., probably for the purpose of proceeding off Niagara, in order to co-operate with Major General Brown.

This Fleet will arrive too late to be of any material Service to the American Army, It is perhaps intended to receive on board all the Troops, which can be procured from that Frontier, in order to convey them to Sacketts Harbour, there to be reinforced by the disposeable part of that Garrison, and then to Attempt the Execution of a part of General Armstrong's Plan of operations, towards the close of the last Campaign, particularly the interruption of the intercourse between the two Provinces, Your Lordship may rely on my Adopting every practicable precautionary measure to prevent the success of such a design.

The Transports with the two last Brigades of Troops from Bourdeaux, are approaching Quebec, where arrangements have been made for their being pushed forward without a moments delay ;—But notwithstanding every exertion it will be impossible to collect the whole force in the neighbourhood of this place, before the end of the present Month.

This circumstance is the less to be regretted as our Fleets on the Lakes, cannot attain a sufficient strength to co-operate with the Divisions of the Army assembling for the destruction of Sacketts Harbour, and the occupation of Plattsburg, before the 15th of next Month, and without their Aid and protection, nothing could be undertaken affording a reasonable hope of substantial Advantage.

The State of Vermont having shewn a decided opposition to the War, and very large supplies of Specie daily coming in from thence, as well as the whole of the Cattle required for the use of the Troops, I mean for the present to confine myself in any offensive Operations which may take place to the Western side of Lake Champlain.

I have the honor to be, My Lord,
Your Lordships
Most Obedient and most
Humble Servant
GEORGE PREVOST.

Archives, C. 1171, p. 333.

G.O. Hd Qrs Montreal 7 Aug. 1814

H. E. The Commander of the Forces is pleased to approve of the following distribution of the Troops in the Left Division.—

Major General Kempt to Command the Reserve of the Army—which is to consist of the Brigade under his Commd and is directed to March upon Montreal.—

The first Brigade under Major General Robinson is to proceed by the Richelieu to Chambly.—

Major General Brisbane will Command the Troops of whatever Corps they may be composed in advance of St. Johns and La Cadie and which will constitute the 2nd Brigade.—

Major General de Watteville when Releived will proceed to join the Right Division of the Army.—

Major General Power will command the Brigade now under his Command and will occupy the Line from La Prairie to St. Johns.—

Major Genl De Rottenburg will give the necessary instructions for the quartering the Troops on the South Side of the River St. Lawrence, and in consequence of their encrease the Major General is authorized to appoint an Extra Aid de Camp.—

Four Companies of the 70th Regiment to March on Tuesday morning to Releive the Detachment of the 97th Regt at Coteau du Lac which will proceed and join its Regt. at Kingston. . . .

Archives, C. 1171, p. 349.

Montreal 15 August 1814.

G.O.

H. E. The Comr of the Forces has been pleased to appoint Lt Alexr Jones of the 6th Regt to Act as Aid de Camp to Major General Stovin during the absence of Captain Torrens.

The Reserve of the Army now assembling at Montreal under the Superintendance of Major General Kempt is not to constitute a part of the Left Division, but is placed exclusively under the Command of that Officer together with the Troops on the North Shore of the St Lawrence from the Island of Montreal to the Coteau du Lac.

(Signed) Edwd Baynes
Adjt Genl N.A.

Certified
(Signed) D. Maclean
D.A.A.G.

Archives, C. 1171, p. 347.

Adj^{t} Gen^{l}^{s} Office
M^{t}Real 16th Aug^{t} 1814

G.O.

In compliance with Instructions received from H.M's Secretary of State that the 1st B^{n} R^{l} Marines is to be disposed of for Naval Service, L^{t} C^{l} Williams will cause the following Distribution of the Corps for the Service of H.M's Ships on the Lakes in the Canadas to be carried into effect.—

	Captns	1st Lieuts	2nd Lieuts	Sergts	Corpls.	Drumrs.	Privates
Lake Ontario	— 3 —	2 —	2 —	6 —	5 —	3 —	310
Lake Champlain	1	——	3 —	8 —	8 —	2	160 —

L^{t} Co^{l} Williams will nominate the Officers for this Service and the Surgeon is to be directed to attend the detachment for Lake Ontario.—

The Detachment for Upper Canada will March so as to arrive at Chateauguay on the 24th Inst, where Boats will be prepared to conduct them to Kingston, and on the Same day the Detachment for Lake Champlain is to be delivered over to the Senior Officer of the Royal Navy on that Station.—

Lieut^{t} Co^{l} Williams with the Staff of the Battalion and the residue of Officers, Serjeants, Rank & File not disposed of, as above Directed and which are to comprise all the noneffective, and those least capable of active Service are to Repair to Chambly for the purpose of proceeding by Sorrel to Quebec, to embark for Halifax.—

The Commander of the Forces in complying with the orders of Government in this disposal of the Battalion of R^{l} Marines consider it an Act of Justice to that valuable and Respectable Corps, to declare His entire approbation of the Correct Conduct and Steady discipline that has uniformly Characterized the Royal Marines since their arrival in Canada.

The 1st B^{n} under L^{t} Co^{l} Williams; in the exact and

diligent discharge of the duties assigned to it, in the occupation of the most critical and important position on this Frontier, has evinced in a manner highly honorable to the Corps, the Talent and Judgm^{t} of the Commander, the intelligence and Vigilence of the Officers, and the tried fidelity and Discipline of the Corps.—

The 2nd B^{n} under L^{t} C^{l} Malcolm was afforded an opportunity of manifesting its gallantry and devotion to the Service in the Assault of the Fort of Oswego.—

His Excellency desires that L^{t} C^{l} Williams will communicate His Sentiments as expressed in this Order, to the Officers and Soldiers of the R^{l} Marines under his Comm^{d}.

Lieutenants Fennel & Jones to continue in the discharge of the duties of their present Station until further Orders.—

Archives, C. 1172, p. 7.

Head Quarters
Montreal 24th August 1814

G.O.

The Com^{r} of the Forces is pleased to approve of the Field Artillery on the South Bank of the S^{t} Lawrence being formed into three Brigades each to consist of :

One 5$\frac{1}{2}$ Inch Howitzer
Two pieces of 24 Pounders
Five of — 6 Pounders

Captain John Sinclair is appointed to the immediate Command and Superintendance of the three Brigades under the Orders of L^{t} C^{l} Pritchard.

The Brigade of Artillery under the Command of B^{t} Major Captain Green is to be attached to the first Brigade of the Line, Commanded by Major General Robinson.—

The Brigade of Artillery Command by Capt^{n} Gordon is

to be attached to the Second Brigade of the Line, under the Orders of major G[l] Brisbane.—

The Brigade of Artillery under the Com[d] of Capt[n] Jackson, is to be attached to the 3[rd] Brigade of the Line under the Orders of Major General Powers.—

The Militia Artillery attached to these Brigades are immediately to be releived and to return to Montreal as soon as replaced by the Royal Artillery and the Corvée Horses and drivers employed by the Royal Artillery are in like manner to be sent to Montreal as soon as replaced by the Kings Horses & Drivers— . . .

(Signed) Edw[p] Baynes
Adj[t] General

Archives, Q. 128—1, p. 220.

(*Transcript from the original in the Public Record Office, London.*)

From Prevost at Plattsburg to Bathurst, Downing Street.

N° 191. Head Quarters Plattsburg
State of New York.
11[th] September 1814.

My Lord

Upon the arrival of the Reinforcements from the Garronne I lost no time in assembling three Brigades on the Frontier of Lower Canada extending from the River Richelieu to the S[t] Lawrence and in forming them into a Division under the command of Major General de Rottenburg for the purpose of carrying into effect His Royal Highness the Prince Regents commands which had been conveyed to me by Your Lordship in Your Dispatch of the 3[d] June last.

As the Troops concentrated and approached the Line of Separation between this Province and the United States, the American Army abandoned its entrenched Camp on the

River Chazy at Champlain, a position I immediately seized & occupied in force on the 3rd Inst, the following day the whole of the left Division advanced to the Village of Chazy without meeting the least opposition from the Enemy.

On the 5th it halted within Eight Miles of this place having surmounted the difficulties created by the obstructions in the Road from the felling of Trees and the removal of Bridges. The next day the Division moved upon Plattsburg in two Columns on parallel Roads—The Right Column led by Major Gen[l] Power's Brigade supported by four Companies of Light Infantry and a demi Brigade under Major Gen[l] Robinson—The Left by Major Gen[l] Brisbanes Brigade.

The Enemy's Militia supported by his Regulars attempted to impede the Advance of the Right Column but they were driven before it from all their positions and the Column entered Plattsburg—This rapid movement having reversed the strong position taken up by the Enemy at dead Creek it was percipitately abandoned by him, and his Gunboats alone left to defend the Ford and to prevent our restoring the Bridges which had been imperfectly destroyed, an inconvenience soon surmounted.

Here I found the Enemy in the occupation of an Elevated Ridge of Land on the South Branch of the Saranac crowned with three Strong Redoubts and other Field Works, and Block Houses armed with heavy Ordnance, with their Flotilla at Anchor, out of Gun Shot from the Shore, consisting of a Ship, a Brig, a Schooner, a Sloop and Ten Gun Boats.

	Guns
The Saratoga	26
Surprize	20
Thunderer	16
Preble	7
10 Gun Boats	14

I immediately communicated this circumstance to Captain Downie who had been recently appointed to command the Vessels on Lake Champlain, consisting of a Ship, a Brig, two Sloops and Twelve Gun Boats, and requested his co-operation and in the mean time Batteries were constructed for the Guns brought from the Rear.

	Guns
The Confiance	36
Linnet	18
Broke	10
Shannon	10
12 Gun Boats	16

On the Morning of the 11th our Flotilla was seen over the Isthmus which joins Cumberland Head with the Main

land, Steering for Plattsburg Bay, I immediately ordered that part of the Brigade under Major General Robinson which had been brought forward consisting of four Light Infantry Companies—3^{d} Batt^{n} 27th And 76th Reg^{ts} and Major Gen^{l} Power's Brigade, consisting of the 3rd 5th—1st Batt^{n} 27th And 58th Reg^{ts} to force the Ford of the Saranac and advance provided with scaling Ladders to escalade the Enemy's Works upon the Heights, this force was placed under the Command of M. General Robinson—The Batteries opened their fire the instant the Ships Engaged—

It is now with deep concern I inform Your Lordship that notwithstanding the intrepid Valor with which Captain Downie led his Flotilla into Action my most sanguine hopes of complete success were not long after blasted by a combination, as it appeared to us, of unfortunate events to which Naval Warfare is peculiarly exposed—Scarcely had His Majesty's Troops forced a passage across the Saranac and ascended the Height on which stand the Enemy's works when I had the extreme Mortification to hear the Shout of Victory from the Enemy's Works in consequence of the British Flag being lowered on board the Confiance and Linnet, and to see our Gun Boats seeking their saftey in flight.—This unlooked for Event depriving me of the Co-operation of the Fleet without which the further Prosecution of the Service was become impracticable, I did not hesitate to arrest the course of the Troops advancing to the attack, because the most complete success would have been unavailing, and the possession of the Enemy's Works offered no advantage to compensate for the loss we must have sustained in acquiring Possession of them.

I have ordered the Batteries to be dismantled the Guns withdrawn, and the Baggage with the wounded Men who can be removed, to be sent to the rear in order that the Troops may return to Chazy tomorrow, and on the following day to Champlain, where I propose to halt until I have

ascertained the use the Enemy propose making of the Naval ascendency they have acquired on Lake Champlain.

I have the honor to transmit herewith returns of the Loss sustained by the Left Division of this Army in its advance to Plattsburg and in forcing a passage across the River Saranac.

I have the honor to be
My Lord
Your Lordship's
Most Obedient
Humble Servant
GEORGE PREVOST

James.

From Major-General Macombe to the American Secretary at War.

SIR, Plattsburg, Sept. 15, 1814.

The governor-general of the Canadas, sir George Prevost, having collected all the disposable force in Lower Canada, with a view of conquering the country as far as Crown Point, and Ticonderago, entered the territories of the United States on the 1st of the month, and occupied the village of Champlain : there he avowed his intentions, and issued orders and proclamations, tending to dissuade the people from their allegiance, and inviting them to furnish his army with provisions. He immediately began to impress the waggons and teams in the vicinity, and loaded them with his heavy baggage and stores. From this I was persuaded he intended to attack this place. I had but just returned from the lines, where I had commanded a fine brigade, which was broken up to form the division under major-general Izard, and ordered to the westward. Being senior officer, he left me in command ; and, except the four companies of the 6th regiment, I had not an organized

Archives, Q. 128—1, p. 225 A.

(*Transcript from the original in the Public Record Office, London.*)

Return of Killed Wounded and Missing of the Left Division under the Command of Major General de Rottenburg in Action with the Enemy from the 6th to the 14th September 1814, Inclusive.

Corps	Killed							Wounded								Missing						
	Captains	Lieutenants	Ensigns	Sergeants	Drummers	Rank & File	Horses	General Staff	Captains	Lieutenants	Ensigns	Serjeants	Drummers	Rank & File	Horses	Captains	Lieutenants	Ensigns	Serjeants	Drummers	Rank & File	Horses
General Staff	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
19th Light Dragoons	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	5	6
Royal Artillery	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
3d Foot	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	1	..	34	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..
5th D°	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
8th D°—2d Battn	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
13th D°	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
27th D° 1st Battn	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	13	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
27th D° 3d Battn	..	..	..	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	..
49th D°	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
58th D°	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	1	2	..	1	..	29	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
76th D°	1	..	..	1	..	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	3	..	2	1	20	..
88th D°	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
De Memnons Regiment	..	..	..	1	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	14	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	..
Canadian Chasseurs	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	..	..	1	..	..	..	7	..
39th Foot	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	2	..	1	4	..	30	1	1	1	6	..	7	..	135	2	..	4	..	2	1	48	6

Names of Officers

Killed		Wounded			Missing	
Regiments	Rank & Names	Regiments	Rank & Names		Regiments	Rank & Names
3d Foot	Captain (Brevet Lieut Colonel) Jas Willington	Genl Staff	Capt T. Crosse, A.D.C. to M. Gl de Rottenburg	Slightly	76th Foot	Lieut G. Hatch
Dº	Ensign John Chapman	3d Foot	Lieut R. Kingsbury	Severely since dead	Dº	Lieut G. Ogilvie
76th Foot	Capt John Purchase	Dº	Lieut Jnº West	Severely	Dº	Lieut E. Marchington
		Dº	Lieut G. Benson	Slightly	Canadian Chasseurs	Lieut E. Vigneau
		Dº	Lieut Jnº Home	ditto		
		58th Foot	Capt Westropp	Severely		
		Dº	Lieut C. Brohier	Slightly		
		Dº	Lieut & Adjt Lewis	ditto		

Edwd. Baynes
Adjt Genl N.A.

battalion among those remaining. The garrison was composed of convalescents and recruits of the new regiments, all in the greatest confusion, as well as the ordnance and stores, and the works in no state of defence. To create an emulation and zeal among the officers and men in completing the works, I divided them into detachments, and placed them near the several forts ; declaring in orders, that each detachment was the garrison of its own work, and bound to defend it to the last extremity. The enemy advanced cautiously and by short marches, and our soldiers worked day and night, so that by the time he made his appearance before the place we were prepared to receive him. General Izard named the principal work Fort-Moreau ; and, to remind the troops of the actions of their brave countrymen, I called the redoubt on the right Fort-Brown, and that on the left Fort-Scott. Besides these three works, we had two blockhouses strongly fortified. Finding, on examining the returns of the garrison, that our force did not exceed 1500 effective men for duty, and well informed that the enemy had as many thousands, I called on General Mooers, of the New York militia, and arranged with him plans for bringing forth the militia *en masse*. The inhabitants of the village fled with their families and effects, except a few worthy citizens and some boys, who formed themselves into a party, received rifles, and were exceedingly useful. By the 4th of the month, general Mooers collected about 700 militia, and advanced seven miles on the Beckman-town road, to watch the motions of the enemy, and to skirmish with him as he advanced ; also to obstruct the roads with fallen trees, and to break up the bridges. On the lake-road, at Dead creek bridge, I posted 200 men, under captain Sproul, of the 13th regiment, with orders to abattis the woods, to place obstructions in the road, and to fortify himself : to this party I added two field-pieces. In advance of that position was lieutenant-colonel Appling, with 110 riflemen, watching the movements of the enemy, and pro-

curing intelligence. It was ascertained, that before day-light on the 6th, the enemy would advance in two columns, on the two roads before mentioned, dividing at Sampson's a little below Chazy village. The column on the Beckman-town road proceeded most rapidly; the militia skirmished with his advanced parties, and except a few brave men, fell back most precipitately in the greatest disorder, notwithstanding the British troops did not deign to fire on them, except by their flankers and advanced patroles. The night previous, I ordered Major Wool to advance with a detachment of 250 men to support the militia, and set them an example of firmness; also captain Leonard, of the light-artillery, was directed to proceed with two pieces to be on the ground before day; yet he did not make his appearance until eight o'clock, when the enemy had approached within two miles of the village. With his conduct, therefore, I am not well pleased. Major Wool, with his party, disputed the road with great obstinacy, but the militia could not be prevailed on to stand, notwithstanding the exertions of their general and staff-officers; although the fields were divided by strong stone walls, and they were told that the enemy could not possibly cut them off. The state dragoons of New York wear red coats; and they being on the heights to watch the enemy, gave constant alarm to the militia, who mistook them for the enemy, and feared his getting in their rear.

Finding the enemy's columns had penetrated within a mile of Plattsburg, I despatched my aid de camp, lieutenant Root, to bring off the detachment at Dead creek, and to inform lieutenant-colonel Appling that I wished him to fall on the enemy's right flank. The colonel fortunately arrived just in time to save his retreat, and to fall in with the head of a column debouching from the woods. Here he poured in a destructive fire from his riflemen at rest, and continued to annoy the enemy until he formed a junction with major Wool. The field-pieces did considerable execution among

the enemy's columns. So undaunted, however, was the enemy, that he never deployed in his whole march, always pressing on in column. Finding that every road was full of troops, crowding on us on all sides, I ordered the field-pieces to retire across the bridge, and form a battery for its protection, and to cover the retreat of the infantry, which was accordingly done, and the parties of Appling and Wool, as well as that of Sproul, retired, alternately keeping up a brisk fire until they got under cover of the works. The enemy's light troops occupied the houses near the bridge, and kept up a constant firing from the windows and balconies, and annoyed us much. I ordered them to be driven out with hot shot, which soon put the houses in flames, and obliged those sharpshooters to retire. The whole day, until it was too late to see, the enemy's light troops endeavoured to drive our guards from the bridge, but they suffered dearly for their perseverance. An attempt was also made to cross the upper bridge, where the militia handsomely drove them back. The column which marched by the lake-road was much impeded by the obstructions, and the removal of the bridge at Dead creek; and, as it passed the creek and beach, the gallies kept up a lively and galling fire. Our troops being now all on the south side of the Saranac, I directed the planks to be taken off the bridges and piled up in the form of breastworks, to cover our parties intended for disputing the passage, which afterwards enabled us to hold the bridges against very superior numbers. From the 7th to the 14th, the enemy was employed in getting on his battering-train, and erecting his batteries and approaches and constantly skirmishing at the bridges and fords. By this time the militia of New York and the volunteers of Vermont were pouring in from all quarters. I advised general Mooers to keep his force along the Saranac to prevent the enemy's crossing the river, and to send a strong body in his rear to harass him day and night, and keep him in continual alarm. The militia behaved with great spirit after the first day,

and the volunteers of Vermont were exceedingly serviceable. Our regular troops, notwithstanding the constant skirmishing, and repeated endeavours of the enemy to cross the river, kept at their work day and night, strengthening the defences, and evinced a determination to hold out to the last extremity. It was reported that the enemy only waited the arrival of his flotilla to make a general attack. About eight in the morning of the 11th, as was expected, the flotilla appeared in sight round Cumberland Head, and at nine bore down and engaged at anchor in the bay off the town. At the same instant the batteries were opened on us, and continued throwing bomb-shells, shrapnells, balls, and Congreve rockets, until sun-set, when the bombardment ceased, every battery of the enemy being silenced by the superiority of our fire. The naval engagement lasted but two hours, in full view of both armies. Three efforts were made by the enemy to pass the river at the commencement of the cannonade and bombardment, with a view of assaulting the works, and they had prepared for that purpose an immense number of scaling-ladders. One attempt to cross was made at the village bridge, another at the upper bridge, and a third at a ford about three miles from the works. At the two first he was repulsed by the regulars—at the ford by the brave volunteers and militia, where he suffered severely in killed, wounded, and prisoners: a considerable body crossed the stream, but were either killed, taken, or driven back. The woods at this place were very favorable to the operations of the militia. A whole company of the 76th regiment was here destroyed, the three lieutenants and 27 men prisoners, the captain and the rest killed. I cannot forego the pleasure of here stating the gallant conduct of captain M'Glassin, of the 15th regiment, who was ordered to ford the river, and attack a party constructing a battery on the right of the enemy's line, within 500 yards of Fort-Brown, which he handsomely executed at midnight, with 50 men; drove off the working party, consisting of 150, and defeated a covering party

of the same number, killing one officer and six men in the charge, and wounding many. At dusk the enemy withdrew his artillery from the batteries, and raised the siege; and at nine, under cover of the night, sent off, in a great hurry, all the baggage he could find transport for, and also his artillery. At two the next morning the whole army precipitately retreated, leaving the sick and wounded to our generosity; and the governor left a note with a surgeon, requesting the humane attention of the commanding-general.

Vast quantities of provision were left behind and destroyed; also an immense quantity of bomb-shells, cannon-balls, grape-shot, ammunition, flints, &c. entrenching tools of all sorts, also tents and marquees. A great deal has been found concealed in ponds and creeks, and buried in the ground; and a vast quantity carried off by the inhabitants. Such was the precipitance of his retreat, that he arrived at Chazy, a distance of eight miles, before we discovered he had gone. The light troops, volunteers, and militia, pursued immediately on learning of his flight, and some of the mounted men made prisoners five dragoons of the 19th regiment, and several others of the rear-guard. A continual fall of rain and a violent storm prevented further pursuit. Upwards of 300 deserters have come in, and many are hourly arriving. We have buried the British officers of the army and navy with the honors of war, and shewn every attention and kindness to those who have fallen into our hands. The conduct of the officers, non-commissioned officers, and soldiers of my command, during the trying occasion, cannot be represented in too high terms.

ALEX. MACOMB.

The loss of the enemy in killed, wounded, prisoners, and deserters, since his first appearance, cannot fall short of 2500.

Hon. I. Armstrong.

Archives, Q. 128. I, p. 245.

(*Transcript from the original in the Public Record Office, London.*)

From Cochran at Quebec to Gordon at ——.

Castle of S^{t} Lewis
Quebec, 20th September 1814.

Sir.

A Merchant Ship Sailing to day for Great Britain by which it will be impossible for His Excellency Sir George Prevost to make any communication to His Majestys Government, I avail myself of the opportunity to convey to you information of an Action fought between the British and American fleets on Lake Champlain, which I regret to state has terminated in the complete defeat, capture and destruction of our Squadron and has necessarily been followed by the retreat of our Army from the positions it had occupied within the American Territory.

The two Squadrons encountered on Sunday the 10th Ins^{t} off Cumberland Head at the entrance of the Bay on which Plattsburgh is situated—The British Fleet consisted of the Confiance Frigate commanded by Cap^{tn} Downie—the Linnet Brig, Cap^{tn} Pring, two Sloops and two Gunboats.

His Majesty's Squadron was led into Action in the most gallant manner by Capt^{n} Downie in the Confiance; And it was the intention of that brave Officer to have boarded the Enemy's large ship, but he was killed a few minutes after the Action commenced, and his intentions appear not to have been known to Lieu^{t} Robinson who succeeded him in the command of the Ship,—

The Action was continued by that Officer with the most determined bravery—both Fleets being at Anchor—The Enemy's large ship (the Saratoga) having anchored with Springs on her Cables was enabled to wear and present a

fresh Broadside to the Confiance ;—And that ship failing in an attempt to wear in like manner (the Springs on her Cables being unfortunately shot away) the Action was maintained by her under many disadvantages until after sustaining a raking fire from the whole of the Enemy's fleet, and having the greater part of the Guns on one side disabled, it became necessary to submit,—The British Colours were reluctantly lowered after an Action of an hour, and the Enemy took possession of a mere wreck.

The Linnet and two Sloops were defended with equal determination and courage but finally shared the fate of the Confiance.—

The greater part of the Officers and Men both of the Confiance and Linnet were either killed or wounded—and the former ship suffered so severely in the Action, that it was with the utmost difficulty she was kept from sinking.

The Gun Boats and a provision ship, alone escaped capture—the total loss on board His Majesty's Fleet amounted to 170 Men killed and wounded.—That of the Enemy is not known.—

The details which I have given of this action have been obtained from the first Lieutenant of the Linnet who has been allowed to come to Montreal on Parole with Captain Pring's Official Letter to Sir James Yeo.—

The British Army commanded by His Excellency in person, were distant Spectators from the Heights near Plattsburgh of the whole of the Action.

Most erroneous reports having gone Abroad respecting the Co-operation of certain Batteries on shore in the destruction of our ships it is right that I should particularly state that the Enemy did not in any Manner Annoy our fleet from the Shore—that neither our own nor the Enemy's ships were within the reach of these Batteries, and that there was not a Gun fired upon them from thence.

In order, indeed, to prevent the possibility of any annoy-

ance our Batteries opened upon those of the Enemy, their Fort and Works immediately after the Action commenced, and the fire of them obliged the Enemy to quit a battery on the Beach which seemed designed to Act against the fleet, tho' they had not attempted to fire from it.

A Storming party was ordered to advance against the Fort, but they had made little progress, when the unexpected lowering of the flag of the Confiance & the certainty of her having struck induced His Excellency to abandon the idea of assaulting the Enemy's works ;—Had our Troops got possession of them, and it is acknowledged that they could not have been carried without great loss,—the Guns could not have been used against the fleet, the greater part of the Garrison might and would have escaped, and our Army would have occupied a useless position which could not have been maintained, and from which, after another day, a retreat could not have been effected without much difficulty, perhaps not without the loss of the heavy Artillery, which, even as it was, it required the greatest exertions to bring away.

The Militia of the Country were rising *En Masse* ; the Command of the Lake was lost ; the inclemency of the weather, the badness of the roads, and the difficulties of communication were daily increasing ;—It was of high importance to preserve the Army entire, for other operations and the loss of men that would have been occasioned by the Assault, by desertion, and by disease would probably have diminished very materially the disposable force which it was necessary that His Excellency should have under his command for the defence of the Frontier and other objects.

These reasons induced His Excellency to recall the Troops from the Assault of the Enemy's Works and to retire with the Army to the frontier line on which and at Champlain town the Troops were posted on the 12th Ins^{t}.

His Excellency returned to Montreal on the 14th instant.

I have been induced to be thus particular in detailing the late disastrous event on Lake Champlain and the subsequent Operations of the Army, by a desire to give you the fullest as well as most correct information, not only of the mere facts, but of the Causes which have rendered it necessary so soon to abandon the footing we had gained in the American Territory.

The latest dates from the Division of the Army before Fort Erie, are to the 8th instant The Enemy still remained shut up in the Fort but their force was rapidly dwindling away through desertion, disease and incessant skirmishing.

The new ship of *100* guns was launched at Kingston on the 10th instant.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedient
humble Servant
ANDREW WM COCHRAN
Asst Secy

Archives, Q. 128—II, p. 254.

(*Transcript from the original in the Public Record Office, London.*)

From Prevost at Montreal to Bathurst, Downing Street.

Private Montreal 22nd Septr 1814

My Lord

In my Dispatch from Plattsburg of the 11th Inst I reported to Your Lordship the unfortunate event which induced me to withdraw the troops with which I had advanced into the Enemy's Territory—My reasons for that measure I can more fully explain to Your Lordship in a private communication than it might be proper to do in a public letter.

Your Lordship must have been aware from my previous despatches that no Offensive Operations could be carried

on within the Enemy's Territory for the destruction of his Naval Establishments without Naval Support. Having ascertained that our Flotilla in the Richelieu was in every respect equal to the Enemy's, & having received from its Commander the assurance not only of his readiness, but of his ability to co-operate with the Army, I did not hesitate in advancing to Plattsburg, & Confidently relying upon the successful exertions of the Squadron, I made my arrangements for the assault of the Enemy's Works, the moment it should appear.

The disastrous and unlooked for result of the Naval Contest by depriving me of the only means by which I could avail myself of any advantage I might gain, rendered a perseverance in the attack of the Enemy's position highly imprudent, as well as hazardous.

From the state of the roads Each days delay at Plattsburg made my retreat more difficult.

The Enemy's Militia was raising En Masse around me, desertion encreasing & the Supply of Provisions Scanty.

Excluded from the advantage of water conveyance, & that by roads passing through Woods & over Swamps becoming, from the State of the weather as well as from the obstructions made by the Enemy nearly impassable.

Under the circumstances I had to determine whether I should consider my own Fame by gratifying the Ardor of the Troops in peresevering in the Attack, or consult the more substantial interests of my Country by withdrawing the Army which was yet uncrippled for the security of these Provinces.

The most ample success on shore after the loss of the Flotilla could not have justified the sacrifice I must have made to obtain it.

Had I failed, & such an event was possible after the American Army had been cheered by the sight of a Naval Victory, the destruction of a great part of my Troops must

have been the consequence, & with the remainder I should have had to make a precipitate and embarrassed retreat, one very different from that which I have made.

These are considerations, which without doubt will have their own due weight with Your Lordship, & induce you, I trust, to view the measures I have adopted, as those best calculated to promote, as well, the honor of His Majesty's Arms, as the safety of this part of his Dominions.

I herewith transmit a Comparative state of the force of the two Squadrons, in order that Your Lordship may be satisfied with my reasons for not discouraging a Naval Contest, in which if all had done their duty I might have had a very different report to make.

I have the honor to be most respectfully
Your Lordship's
Most Obedient
humble Servant
GEORGE: PREVOST

Archives, Q. 128—II, p. 258.

Enclosure.

Comparative State of the Flotilla's on Lake Champlain on the 11th Septr 1814.

English	Guns	*American*	Guns
Ship Confiance	36	Ship Saratoga	26
Brig Linnet	18	Brig Surprize	20
Sloop Chub	10	Schooner Thunderer	16
Sloop	10	Sloop Preble	7
Gun Boats 12 Carrying	16	Gunboats 10 Carrying	14
Total	90		83

Archives, Q. 129, p. 173.

(*Transcript from the original in the Public Record Office, London.*)

From Yeo at Kingston to Croker at ——.

Copy
N° 30.

H.M.S. Saint Lawrence
Kingston 24th Sept. 1812 [*sic*].

Sir

I have the honor to transmit for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty two Copies of Letters from Captain Pring and Lieutenant Robertson, late Commander & Commanding Officer of His Majesty's late Ship Confiance and Brig Linnet.

It appear to me, and I have good reason to believe that Captain Downie was urged, and his ship hurried into Action before she was in a fit state to meet the Enemy

I am also of opinion that there was not the least necessity for our Squadron giving the Enemy such decided advantages by going into their Bay to engage them: Even had they been successful, it could not in the least have assisted the Troops in storming the Batteries, whereas had our Troops taken their Batteries first, it would have obliged the Enemy's Squadron to quit the Bay and given ours a fair chance.

I have the honor to be
&c. &c.
James Lucas Yeo
Commodore and
Commander in Chief

Archives, Q. 129, p. 174.

Enclosure. From Pring at Plattsburg, to Yeo at Kingston.

United States Ship Saratoga
Copy Plattsburg Bay, Lake Champlain
12th September 1814.

Sir,

The painful task of making you acquainted with the circumstances attending the capture of His Majesty's Squadron yesterday, by that of the American under Commodore McDonough, it grives me to state, becomes my duty to perform, from the ever to be lamented loss of that worthy and gallant Officer Captain Downie who unfortunately fell early in the Action.

In consequence of the earnest Solicitation of His Excellency Sir George Prevost, for the Co-operation of the Naval Force on this Lake, to attack that of the Enemy, who were placed for the support of their Works at Plattsburg, which it was proposed should be Stormed by the Troops at the same moment the Naval Action should commence in the Bay, Every possible Exertion was used to accelarate the Armament of the New Ship, that the Military movements might not be postponed at such an advanced Season of the Year—longer than was absolutely necessary.

On the 3d Inst I was directed to proceed in Command of the Flotilla of Gun Boats to protect the left Flank of our Army advancing towards Plattsburg and on the following day, after taking possession and paroling the Militia of Isle la Motte, I caused a Battery of 3 Long 18 Pounder Guns to be constructed for the support of our position abreast of little Chazy where the supplies for the Army were ordered to be landed.

The Fleet came up on the 8th Instant but for want of Stores for the Equipment of the Guns could not move forward until

the 11th—At daylight we weighed and at 7 were in full view of the Enemy's Fleet, consisting of a Ship, Brig, Schooner and one Sloop, moored in line, abreast of their encampment, with a Division of 5 Gun Boats on Each Flank ;—at 7.40 after the Officers Commanding Vessels and the Flotilla had received their final instructions, as to the plan of attack; we made sail in order of Battle, Capt Downie had determined on laying his Ship athwart hawse of the Enemy's, directing Lieut McGhee of the Chub to support me in the Linnet, in engaging the Brig to the right, and Lieut Hicks of the Finch with the Flotilla of Gun Boats, to attack the Schooner & Sloop on the left of the Enemy's line.

At 8 the Enemy's Gun Boats and smaller Vessels commenced a heavy and galling fire on our Line, at 8.10 the Confiance having two Anchors shot away from her Larboard Bow, And the wind baffling was obliged to anchor (though not in the situation proposed) within two Cables length of her Adversary. The Linnet and Chub soon afterwards took their allotted Stations, something short of that distance, when the Crews on both sides cheered and commenced a spirited and close Action, a Short time however deprived me of the valuable services of Lieutenant McGhee who, from having his Cables, Bowsprit and Main Boom shot away drifted within the Enemy's line and was obliged to surrender. From the light airs and the smoothness of the water, the Fire on each side proved very destructive from the commencement of the Engagement, and with the Exception of the Brig, that of the Enemy, appeared united against the Confiance.

After two hours severe Conflict with our opponent ; she cut her cable, run down, and took Shelter between the Ship and Schooner which enabled us to direct our fire against the Division of the Enemy's Gun Boats, and Ship, which had so long annoyed us, during our close Engagement with the Brig, without any return on our part : At this time, the fire of the Enemy's Ship slackened considerably, having several

of her Guns dismounted—when she cut her Cable, and winded her Larboard Broadside to bear on the Confiance who, in vain endeavoured to effect the same Operation, at 10.30 I was much distressed to observe the Confiance had struck her Colours—The whole attention of the Enemy's Force then became directed towards the Linnet, the shattered and disable state of the Masts sails, rigging and Yards, precluded the most distant hope of being able to effect an Escape by cutting the Cable, the result of doing so, must in a few minutes have been her drifting alongside the Enemy's Vessels, Close under our Lee—but in the hope that the Flotilla of Gun Boats who had abandoned the object assigned them would perceive our wants and come to our assistance, which would afford a reasonable prospect of being towed clear, I determined to resist the then destructive Cannonading of the whole of the Enemy's Fleet, and at the same time dispatched Lieutenant W. Drew to ascertain the state of the Confiance.

At 10.45 I was apprized of the irreparable loss she had sustained by the Death of her brave Commander (whose merits it would be presumption in me to Extol) as well as the great Slaughter which had taken place on board, and observing from the Manoeuvres of the Flotilla, that I could enjoy no further expectation of relief; the situation of my gallant Comrades, who had so nobly fought, and even now fast falling by my side, demanded the surrender of His Majesty's Brig entrusted to my Command, to prevent a useless waste of valuable lives, and, at the request of the surviving Officers & Men, I gave the painful orders for the Colours to be Struck.

Lieutenant Hicks of the Finch had the Mortification to strike on a reef of Rocks, to the Eastward of Crab Island, about the Middle of the Engagement; which prevented his rendering that assistance to the Squadron that might from an Officer of such ability have been expected.

The misfortune which this day befell us by Capture, will, Sir I trust Apologize for the lengthy detail, which in

Justice to the Sufferers, I have deemed it necessary to give of the particulars which led to it; And when it is taken into consideration that the Confiance was Sixteen days before, on the Stocks, with an unorganized Crew, comprized of several Drafts of Men; who had recently arrived from different ships at Quebec, many of whom only joined the day before, and were totally unknown either to the Officers or to each other, with the want of Gun Locks as well as other necessary appointments, not to be procured in this Country; I trust you will feel satisfied of the decided advantage the Enemy possessed, Exclusive of their great superiority in point of force, a comparative Statement of which I have the honor to annex.—It now becomes the most pleasing part of my present duty, to notice to you, the determined skill and bravery of the Officers and men in this unequal Contest, but it grieves me to State, that the loss sustained in Maintaining it, has been so great; that of the Enemy, I understand amounts to something more than the same number.—

The fine style in which Captain Downie conducted the Squadron into Action admidst a tremendous fire, without returning a Shot, until secured, reflects the greatest credit to his Memory, for his Judgment and coolness as also on Lieu^{ts} M^{c}Ghee & Hicks so strictly attending to his Example and instructions, their own accounts of the Capture of their respective Vessels, as well as that of Lieutenant Robertson, who succeeded to the Command of the Confiance, will, I feel assured, do ample Justice to the Merits of the Officers and Men serving under their immediate Command, but I cannot omit noticing the individual Conduct of Lieutenants Robertson, Creswick and Hornby, and M^{r} Bryden Master, for their particular Exertion in Endeavouring to bring the Confiance's Starboard side to bear on the Enemy, after most of their guns were dismounted on the other.

It is impossible for me to Express to you, my Admiration

of the Officers and Crew serving under my personal Orders, their coolness and steadiness, the effect of which was proved by their irresistible fire, directed towards the Brig opposed to us, claims my warmest acknowledgements, but more particularly for preserving the same, so long after the whole strength of the Enemy had been directed against the Linnet alone, my 1st Lieutenant Mr William Drew, whose merits I have before had the honor to report to you, behaved on this occasion in the most exemplary manner. By the death of Mr Paul, Acting 2nd Lieutenant the Service has been deprived of a most Valuable and brave Officer, he fell early in the Action, Great Credit is due to Mr Giles, Purser, for Volunteering his Services on deck, to Mr. Mitchell, surgeon for the Skill he evinced in performing some amputations required at the moment as well as his great attention to the Wounded during the Action, at the close of which the Water was nearly a foot above the lower Deck, from the number of shot which struck her, between Wind and Water.—I have to regret the loss of the Boatswain Mr. Jackson, who was killed a few minutes before the Action terminated.

The assistance I received from Mr Muckle the Gunner and also from Mr Clarke, Master's Mate, Messrs Fouke and Sinclair, Midshipmen, the latter of whom was wounded on the head and Mr Guy my Clerk, will, I hope, recommend them, as well as the whole of my gallant little Crew, to Your Notice.

I have much Satisfaction in making you acquainted with the humane treatment the wounded have received from Commodore McDonogh.

They were immediately removed to his own Hospital on Crab Island, and were furnished with every requisite. His generous and polite attention also to myself, the Officers and Men, will ever hereafter be gratefully remembered.

Enclosed I beg leave to transmit you the statement of the different Commanding Officers of Vessels relative to the

circumstances attending their capture, also the Return of killed & Wounded, an[d] I have honor to be

&c

(Signed) Dan. Pring
Captain
late of H.M. Sloop Linnet

Archives, Q. 129, p. 190.

Enclosure.

A Statement of the Enemy's Squadron engaged with His Majesty's late Squadron on Lake Champlain.

11th September 1814.

		Long Guns—		Carronades
Saratoga—	Ship—	8 . 24 Pdrs—		12 . 32 Pdrs 6 . 42
Eagle—	Brig—	8 . 18		12 . 32 „
Ticonderoga—	Schr.—	4 . 18 10 . 12	—	3 . 32 „
Preble—	Cutter—	7 . 9		
Six Gun Boats each		1 . 24	—	1 . 18
Four do each		1 . 12		—

Impossible to ascertain the number of Men.

Archives, Q. 129, p. 185.

Enclosure. From Robertson to Pring.

Copy

United States Ship of War
Saratoga, off Plattsburg
12th September 1814.

Sir,

In compliance with your Commands that I should relate the circumstances which led to the surrender of His Majesty's

late Ship Confiance, I have the honour to acquaint you that, in leading into the Action, the small bower Anchor was shot from the bows, and when the spare Anchor was let go, the Cable was shot away—the best bower was then let go, the spring on which suffered the same fate—About 15 minutes after we commenced the Action, our gallant Commander, Captain Downie, was mortally wounded, and only lived to be carried below. The Action was kept up with Great Spirit a considerable time afterwards, and until the Enemy's Ship was Silenced and he found it necessary by means of his Springs to bring his other broadside to bear on us. The Enemy's Brig at the same time finding her situation too warm, cut her cable, and anchored again in a position so as to enable her to do us much injury.

Our loss, at this time, amounted to a great number in Killed and Wounded, and on the side opposed to the Enemy we had nine long Guns two Carronades and the pivot Gun disabled; on the other side, three long Guns and two Carronades.

It then became absolutely necessary to shift our broadside, and a Spring was accordingly got on the Cable for the purpose, and our broadside was nearly got to bear on the Enemy again, when the Ship's Company declared they would stand no longer to their Quarters, nor could the Officers with their utmost exertions rally them.

The concentrated fire of the whole of the Enemy's Squadron and Flotilla of Gun Boats had been then, for some time directed against the Confiance, and the Ship's Company had until now kept up the Action with as much Spirit as could be expected from men unacquainted with each other and with their Officers, and in a Ship which had been sixteen days before, on the Stocks. I had previous to this ordered a Boat to inform you of the fate of Captain Downie, but I found that both our boats were shot from the Stern—Our Gun Boats were, at this time, at a distance from the Action, and when

I ordered the Signal to be made for them to engage Closer, the Signal book, in consequence of the Captain's Death, had been mislaid.

The Ship was making Water very fast. The Rigging, Spars and hull completely Shattered; upwards of forty men killed, and the wind from that Quarter as not to admit of the smallest prospect of escaping, had the ship been in a condition. It was my own opinion and that of the Officers, that keeping up the Colours any longer would be a Wanton and useless waste of human blood, I was therefore under the most distressing circumstances that an Officer could be placed in compelled to order the colours to be struck.

It would be presumption in me to attempt saying anything of the merits of my late brave and meritorious Captain—they are too well known to require any Commendation of mine as well as those of Captain Anderson of the Marines who likewise fell performing the duty of a Gallant Officer; as did M^{r} Gunn, Midshipman, a very promising Young Officer.

It now becomes my duty to advert to the surviving Officers whose conduct on the occasion merits a better fate, and the warmest Approbation of their Country, for their unceasing exertions during so destructive a fire; it would be an injustice to them were they not mentioned individually. Lieutenant Charles Creswick and Acting Lieutenant Hornsby set the best example; M^{r} Bryden, the Master Carrid the ship into Action in the most gallant style: Lieutenant Childs of the Marines, and Fitzpatrick of the 39th Regiment distinguished themselves in encouraging their men—Mess^{rs} Simmonds and Lee, Midshipman, were particularly zealous, the former had passed his examination for a Lieutenant, and is in my opinion very deserving of promotion; the latter was wounded in two places. Mess^{rs} Dowie, Whitesides and Kooystra, young Midshipmen, conducted themselves uncommonly well. It would be injustice to pass over the humanity and attention paid by M^{r} William Martin, Acting

Archives, Q. 129, p. 184.

Enclosure.

Return of the Killed and Wounded on board His Majesty's late Squadron in Action with the Enemy's Squadron on Lake Champlain

11th September 1814

Vessels Names	Killed		Wounded		Total	Remarks
	Officers	Seamen & Marines	Officers	Seamen & Marines	Killed & Wounded	
Confiance .	3	38	1	39	81	From the Confiance's Crew having been landed immediately after the Action, no opportunity has offered a Muster—
Linnet .	2	8	1	13	24	
Chub .	..	6	1	15	22	
Finch .	..	..	..	2	2	
Total .	5	52	3	69	129	The number stated is the whole as yet ascertained to have been killed and wounded.

Officers Names Killed & Wounded 11th Sept 1814

Officers Killed.

Names	Quality	To what Ship belonging
George Downie	Captain	H.M.S. Confiance
Alexr Anderson	Capt Royl Marines	,, ,,
William Gunn	Midshipman	,, ,,
William Paul	Actg. Lieutenant	H.M. Sloop Linnet
Chas Jackson	Boatswain	,, ,,

Officers Wounded.

Names	Quality	To what Ship belonging
—— Lee	Midshipman	H.M.S. Confiance
John Sinclair	Midshipman	H.M. Sloop Linnet
James McGhee	Lieutenant	H.M. Cutter Chub

Surgeon, and M^r C. C. Todd, Assistant, to the numerous Wounded and at a time when the water was above the Gun room deck. The Warrant Officers conducted themselves to my satisfaction in their different Departments, I have not been able to ascertain the exact number of Killed and wounded—Thirty eight bodies were sent on shore for interment, besides those thrown overboard during the Action

I have the honour to be

&^ca &^ca

(Signed) James Robertson
Late 1^st Lieu^t: Confiance

Archives, Q. 129, p. 157.

(*Transcript from the original in the Public Record Office, London.*)

From Yeo at Kingston to Croker at ——.

N° 31 H.M.S. Saint Lawrence
Copy Kingston 29. Sep^r 1814.
Sir.

Captain Pring having arrived on his Parole, has handed me the Correspondence between His Excellency Sir G. Prevost and Cap^t Downie, previous to the Action on Lake Champlain, Copies of which I have the honor to transmit you, Sir, for their Lordships information.

It appears very evident that Cap^t Downie was urged, and even goaded on to his fate, by His Excelly who appears to have assumed the direction of the Naval Force.

His Excellency assured Cap^t Downie that the Army should attack the Enemy's Batteries at the same moment that the Naval Action commenced; and under this persuasion alone, did Cap^t Downie go in to attack them—Had His Excellency adhered to his previous arrangement, the Enemy's Squadron must have quitted their Anchorage, particularly their Gun Boats that lay close under their Shore,

and whose heavy Metal and cool fire did more execution to our Vessels than their Ship or Brig.

Had His Excellency taken the Batteries even after the Action it must have led to the recapture of our Vessels; if not those of the Enemy as it is Notorious, and a fact, that the Enemy's Vessels were so cut up and disabled as to be incapable of taking possession of our Ship and Brig for upwards of three hours after the Action; and as the wind was directly on Shore, our Ships could have run under the Works had they been in our possession.

I have the honor to be
&c
James Lucas Yeo
Commodore & Commr in Chief

Archives, Q. 129, p. 159.

From Downie at Isle aux Noix to Captain Upton, H.M.S. Junon at Quebec.

Inclosure 1. H.M.S. Confiance
Copy Isle aux Noix
1st Sept 1814

Sir

I beg leave to state to you that His Majesty's Ship Confiance under my command, now nearly ready to proceed on Service, has not a lock to any Gun or Carronade in her. In a few days she will be before the Enemy, and the want of Locks may be seriously injurious in Action.

I have therefore to submit to your consideration my earnest request that you lend the whole of the Junon's Locks, even for the time she may remain at Quebec; and in the event of your judging it expedient to comply with this request, as every moment is of importance, the Army and Flotilla being Advancing,

I beg leave to suggest the propriety of the Ordnance

Storekeeper at Quebec forwarding the Locks by the mail Cart to the Storekeeper at Montreal.

I have the honor to be &c
(Signed) G. Downie
Captain & Senior Officer
on Lake Champlain

Archives, Q. 129, p. 160.

From Downie off Ash Island to Prevost at Plattsburg.

Inc. 2. 7th September, off Ash Island
Copy H.M.S. Confiance
Sir.

I have the honor of Your Excellency's letter of this Morning.

I am aware of the Comparative force of the Enemy, and am thus far on my way to find the Enemy ; Conceiving that the moment I can put this Ship into a State for Action I shall be able to meet them.

The Confiance is at this moment in such a state as to require at least a day or two to make her efficient before the Enemy ; but with all the exertion I can make it will probably be that time at least, before I can get her up to Chazy, where I shall be happy to receive any further communication from Your Excellency.

I have the honor to be &c
(Signed) G. Downie

Archives, Q. 129, p. 161.

From Prevost at Plattsburg to Downie at Point Au Fer.

Inclos. 3. Head Quarters, Plattsburg
Copy/ 8th Sept. 1814—
Sir,

I have just received your reply to my Communication of yesterday.

As it is of the highest importance the Ship, Vessels and Gun Boats under your Command should commence a co-operation with the division of the Army now occupying Plattsburg, I have sent my Aid de Camp Major Coore with this Letter, in order that you may obtain from him correct information of the disposition made by the Enemy of his Naval force in the Bay.

I only wait for your arrival to proceed against General McCombe's last position on the South bank of the Saranac. Your share in the operation in the first instance will be to destroy or to Capture the Enemy's Squadron, if it should wait for a Contest, and afterwards Co-operate with this division of the Army, but if it should run away and get out of your reach, we must meet here to consult on Ulterior Movements.

I have the Honor to be
&c &c
(Signed) GEORGE : PREVOST

Archives, Q. 129, p. 162.

From Downie at Point Au Fer, to Prevost at Plattsburg.

Inc. 4. 8th Sept. off Poin au Fer
H.M.S. Confiance

Sir,

I have the honour of Your Excellency's Letter of this day, to which I have to state that I am advancing with Squadron to Chazy as fast as the wind and weather will allow.

In the letter I did myself the Honor to address to you yesterday, I stated to you that this Ship was not ready. She is not ready now, and, until she is ready, it is my duty not to hazard the Squadron before an Enemy who will be superior in Force.

I purpose anchoring at Chazy until I am enabled to move

which I trust will be very shortly, it depending upon my Guns being ready.

I have the Honor to be
&c &c
(Signed) G. Downie

Archives, Q. 129, p. 163.

From Prevost at Plattsburg to Downie at ——.

Inc: 5
Copy/

Head Quarters, Plattsburg
9th Sept 1814.

Sir

In consequence of your communication of yesterdays date, I have postponed moving on the Enemy's position on the South bank of the Saranac, until your Squadron is in a state of preparation to co-operate with the division of the Army.

I need not dwell with you on the Evils resulting to both Services from delay, as I am well convinced you have done everything that was in Your Power to accelerate the Armament and Equipment of Your Squadron, and I am also satisfied nothing will prevent its coming off Plattsburg, the moment it is practicable.

I am happy to inform you that I find from Deserters who have come over from the Enemy that the American Fleet is insufficiently manned, and that a few days ago, after the arrival of the New Brig they sent on Shore for the Prisoners of all descriptions in charge of the Provost to make up a Crew for that Vessel.

I have the Honor to be
&c &c
(Signed) George: Prevost.

Captain Watson of the Provincial Cavalry is directed to remain at little Chazy until you are preparing to get underweigh, when he is instantly to return to this place with the intelligence.

Archives, Q. 129, p. 165.

From Downie, R.N. off little Chazy to Prevost at Plattsburg.

Inc: 6 — 9th Sept off little Chazy
Copy/ — H.M.S. Confiance
Sir.

I have the Honour to communicate to Your Excellency that it is my intention to Weigh and proceed from this Anchorage about Midnight, in the Expectation of rounding into the Bay of Plattsburg about dawn of day, and commence an immediate attack upon the Enemy, if they should be found Anchored in a position that will offer chance of success. I rely on any assistance you can afford the Squadron.

In manning the Flotilla & Ships, finding we are many short, I have made application to the Officer Commanding at Chazy for a Company of the 39th Regiment.

I have the honour of Your Excellency's letter of this morning, to which the preceeding is a full answer.

I have the Honour to be
&ca &ca
(Signed) G. Downie

Archives, Q. 129, p. 166.

From Prevost at Plattsburg to Downie, R.N. at ——,
10 September 1814.

Inc: 7 — Head Quarters, Plattsburg
Copy — 10th September 1814.
Sir

I received at twelve last night your letter acquainting me with your determination to get under weigh about that time, in expectation of rounding Cumberland Head at dawn

of day. In consequence the Troops have been held in readiness since 6 o'clock this morning to storm the Enemy's Works at nearly the same moment as the Naval Action should commence in the Bay.

I ascribe the disappointment I have experienced to the unfortunate change of wind, & shall rejoice to learn that my reasonable expectations have been frustrated by no other cause.

I have the Honour to be
&c &c
(Signed) George Prevost

Archives, Q. 129, p. 167.

From Robertson off Plattsburg to Pring. H.M. Sloop Linnet.

Inc: 8 U.S. Saratoga off
Copy/ Plattsburg, 15 Sep^{t} 1814
Sir

I have the honour of inclosing for the information of the Commander in Chief, a return of the Killed and Wounded on board the Confiance in the late Action, which from circumstances you are acquainted with, could not be produced before.

I beg leave to add further particulars which led to the surrender of the Confiance, not adverted to in my Letter of the 12th instant, in consequence of the limited time I had for transmitting it.

Previous to the Action it had been held out to the Ships Company that when it should commence it was the intention of the Commander of the Land Forces, at the same time to storm the Enemy's Works.

When the Crew of the Confiance would no longer continue the Action at the reiterated attempts on the part of all the Surviving Officers to rally them, they stated the want of

co-operation on the part of the Army, and our Gun Boats keeping at a distance, the fire of the whole of the Enemy's Force being directed at the Confiance, as the reasons of their not being able to continue it.

The numerous wounded below were frequently moved from place to place to prevent their being drowned, though the utmost exertions were made by M^r^ Cox, the Carpenter; who during the Action drove in sixteen large Shot plugs under the water line.

Having to contend with such distressing circumstances, I joined in the opinion with the remaining Officers that while making no longer resistance it would be the height of inhumanity any longer to expose the lives of the unfortunate wounded.

A Considerable time from the surrender of the Confiance until the Enemy were in a Condition to take possession of her, during which time the greatest exertions were made in pumping and baling at the different Hatchways, for the preservation of the wounded.

M^r^ W. Martin and his assistant M^r^ A. Todd all the time being unremitting in their attention to the unfortunate Sufferers: the latter was wounded by a Splinter, and a woman attending him was killed by the side of the Surgeon.

You are aware, Sir, of the written orders issued by the Enemy two days previous to the Action, directing that their whole fire should be concentrated on the Confiance to ensure her Capture.

I have the Honour to be
&^ca^ &^ca^
Ja^s^ Robertson
late Senior Lieu^t^
H.M.S. Confiance

Archives, Q. 129, p. 170.

From Pring at Isle aux Noix to Yeo at Kingston.
17 *September*, 1814.

Inc: 9.
Copy/

Isle aux Noix
17th September 1814.

Sir.

Having performed the painful task of detailing to you the particulars of the Action of the 11th—I now feel it my duty to make you acquainted with the disappointment which our Squadron Experienced on that day, in the want of the promised co-operation of the Land Forces, to which I attribute the cause of our failure.

Captain Downie urged by Sir George: Prevost to assist with the Naval Force under his Command in the intended operations against Plattsburg, and relying on his promise that the works abreast of which the Enemy's Fleet lay moored, should be stormed at the same moment the Naval Action should commence, determined to engage them under the difficulties adverted to in my Letter of the 12th Inst. that time alone could remedy, the loss of which might frustrate the object of the Campaign.

The Enemy's Gun Boats, who were moored under protection of their Batteries, it was confidently expected would be driven from such an advantageous position, and with the full persuasion that the possession of their works, would give our Squadron a decided advantage over theirs, (placed for the purpose of aiding their Military Force) Captain Downie acceded to the plan of attack: unfortunately however it was not carried into execution on the shore, which enabled the Enemy's Flotilla to inflict the deliberate and destructive fire which obliged the Confiance to strike, and was also in my opinion the reason of our efforts on the occasion not being crowned with success.

It may not be improper to remark that had the Enemy's

Works been stormed even after the Action had terminated our Squadron might have been preserved from falling into their hands by running under cover of the Batteries, as the Enemy's force was for some considerable time unequal to take possession of us.

I have the Honour to be
&ca &ca
Daniel Pring
Commander of H.M.
late Sloop Linnet.

Archives, M. 897.

From Alicia Cockburn, Montreal, to Charles Sandys Esq^re St. George's Place, Canterbury. (*Private.*)

Montreal,
October 20th 1814.

My dear Charles,

A few days since, I got your letter of the 29th of July, by which it appears that Messrs Broughton and Co. had made some great blunder in applying to you to honour a draft of mine for £60—on account of *my Mother*.—I can assure you, that I never mentioned my Mother's name directly, or indirectly to them, nor were they *authorized* to require from you, more than half that sum, the other half being to be paid by Mr Alexr Cockburn—however it appears extraordinary to me, that you did not receive by the same Mail, letters from me, explaining the business, of which I sent duplicates.—Previous to the receipt of your letter, I received information of the Draft being accepted, otherwise I should have felt very uneasy, as the having it returned would have been extremely disreputable.—I hoped the sums coming to me from Romney marsh &ca would have covered the amount of both Drafts, but I must now wait the arrival of *your accounts* to understand the matter.—I am truly sorry my Mother is inconvenienced,

but I yet hope Lord Tankerville will renew his allowance to her, and that the price of all the articles of life being on the decrease, she will, in future, be more at ease in her pecuniary circumstances.—In this Country everything is now dearer than when I left England.—the immense Army we have, has contributed to make this the Case, more especially as they have been too long used to every sort of Luxury, on the Continent of Europe, to endure the rough fare which Soldiers in this part of the World are content to put up with, & they have already done much harm by introducing a course of extravagance, that we shall feel, & do now, in the encrease of provisions, for which people have only to ask what they please and it is immediately given.—It cannot however long continue, and the quiet Inhabitants of the Province (who do not find the pleasure of these refinements a sufficient recompence for the inconvenience of paying for them) will take some steps towards an alteration.—When we submit to be banished to the wilds of America, it is generally with a view of amassing some portion of wealth to enjoy ourselves at ease in our native Land, instead of wasting it among Savages, and this being a principle on which all the higher classes of military have hitherto acted, they are not a little annoyed at seeing men of large overgrown fortunes come dashing out, and scattering their gold "like chaff before the wind."—This is the case with most of the Peninsular Gen[ls] & in a Country where we have so few of *the agremens* of life, their greatest difficulty is how to dispose of their ready cash, a circumstance of which the Canadians are quite ready and willing to take advantage.—I intend to send these letters home by Lord Arthur Somerset, therefore can write freely on the affairs of the Country which it is not so prudent to do by a chance conveyance, tho' in fact the popular voice is so loud & clamorous, that I know not why I should fear to speak the sentiments of all Canada. The recent disgraceful business of Plattsburg has so completely irritated the feelings of the whole army, that it is in a

state almost amounting to mutiny. The Governor who has hitherto made his own story good in England, & by a course of art, & deception, almost unexampled, contrived to blind the eyes of Ministers at home, is now at his wits' end.—too surely convinced that his infamous behaviour can no longer be concealed, he is taking every step to soften down as much as possible, the tales which will be told, & using the meanest arts to get them conveyed (since told they must be) in as favourable a manner as he can—for this purpose, he is sending home creatures who are dependant on him, and whom neither truth, or common honesty, will induce to swerve from the path of interest, such as can only be obtained by the most *servile flattery*.—There is however one person who will, I trust, be able to counteract the insidious designs of the set of Villains who hover round *the Throne*, and this is Lord Arthur Somerset, who being Aid de Camp to the Duke of York has, I have every reason to believe, been sent out here purposely to investigate the truth of certain hints which have reached England, and which he finds have such a colour of truth, as neither he nor anyone else had an idea of.—I have furnished him with several papers, and documents, & above all, with a plan of the late operations at Plattsburg, which I had much difficulty in procuring, and which he takes home for the inspection of the Commander-in-Chief.—The origin however of all the calamities which these provinces endure, is Gen[l] Baynes the Adjutant Gen[l] who is the chosen friend & adviser of Sir George Prevost & without whose approbation this poor weak man dares not move a finger. Baynes, (who is the son of an Hospital mate at Gibraltar, & has risen by one of those unaccountable turns of fortune which one sees without being able to comprehend,) possesses not one qualification to form either a Statesman or a Soldier—by the lowest cunning & the dirtiest offices, he has made himself useful and necessary to the Governor, and since it is assuredly his interest, & that of all the other Courtiers to protract a War which puts so

many thousands into their pockets, he leaves no stratagem untried to encourage Sir George in those measures most likely to effect his ambitious purposes.—In the Cabinet he has ever been ridiculed and despised—in the field he is well known to hide his head—even his best friends allow this, if friends he has any, for in truth I know not of one, excepting *his Master*—that such a man should govern this Country is indeed an evil that must either be redressed, or we are lost. He is not contented either with being himself in favour, but no place is to be given, no reward bestowed, no honest man distinguished, excepting those who bow & cringe to him.—as a matter of policy to forward his views, there cannot be a stronger, than his having managed in one way or another, to place round the person of the Governor, such Men as are either American-born, or by having some connexions & interests in the United States, are naturally enough inclined to favour, as far as they dare, such strong and powerful ties of society.—The Commissary Gen[l] his wife and family are of this description—so is the Civil Secretary—& many others—the latter (M[r] Brenton, a low, dirty fellow, whose abilities in the Law are his only recommendation, tho' turned to the vilest purposes) embarked a fortnight since for England, on an Embassy which was kept so secret, that he was on board the Frigate e'er it was known he was going home—as he will stick at nothing to secure his own interest, he will make as good a story for Sir George as he can, but I think there are still others who will also be attended to & whose "plain unvarnished tale," will put down the artful tales of this dirty fellow.—perhaps you will think me violent in my remarks, yet if you *heard* & *saw*, & *knew*, *all I do*, you would change your opinion.—Had any man with common abilities been at the head of this Government, unbiased by the invidious counsels of fools and sycophants, we must long ago have taught the Yankees submission, & been at Peace. Such is the *decided opinion of every military man* in the Province,

whether his rank be high or low, so glaring are the state of affairs at this moment. The civil Government of the Province, is in a state no less deplorable than the military.—I am intimately acquainted with two of the Judges, both very sensible & rational Men, with whom I have conversed a great deal, and to hear the accounts they give, would make your hair stand on end.—The American Gen[l] commanding on this frontier, has sent us in, the latest newspapers, & by them we learn, that the negotiation at Ghent is entirely at an end—we must therefore "fight it out," but if we mean so to do, we must have another Chief, "one who has valour to assert our cause"—not a mean-spirited, ignorant man who sprung from the lowest origin, (for his Father was a Drummer in the Swiss service) who arrogates to himself a kind of despotic authority too often seen in those who by extraordinary means rise to a situation for which they are wholly unfit.—that he may soon return to his original obscurity, & "hide his diminished head" in another Country, is all the harm I wish him, but I may be forgiven this, when I see hundreds of the bravest Troops in the World daily falling a sacrifice to his neglect of their comfort in providing them with common necessaries, which is the case in the Upper Province, where Gen[l] Drummond and his Army are literally starving from the shameful carelessness of the people this detestable Man chuses to employ about him.—I think I have now given you a pretty good dose of Politicks, & will therefore hasten to release you—remember all I have said is in *strict confidence*, with the exception of my Mother & Mary.—All chit-chat, I write to them, & shall therefore only add our best regards, and request you to Believe me, my dear Charles,

Your oblig[d] & Affect[te] Cousin,

Alicia Cockburn.

Since I began this, I have seen the Halifax papers, & thought I could not give you a more impartial, or better

account of the Governor's *wise measures*, and the universal indignation against him, than by sending you the enclosed extracts, written by two of the cleverest men in the Country.—

Archives, M. 897.

Enclosure.

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER IN A HALIFAX PAPER, OF THE 1st OF OCTOBER, 1814.—

If even Matrimonial connections with Americans are such dangerous things, that a man cannot form them without losing his honour, what opinion can we entertain of the Commander in Chief on shore, the offspring of such a connection, and his parents on both sides true republicans ?—but such conaptions are only fit for the Editor of "the Montreal Herald"—by his works only shall a Man be judged, and if there ever was a worse conducted, or a more disastrous War than ours in Canada, why then there have been worse Gen[ls] than the Commander in Chief, which no impartial person in British America can be brought to believe.—If incapacity was his only fault, if he has been rewarded with honours and profitable Governments for services which never would have been thought of, but for these unmerited favours, it might have been borne—but what Soldier—what Man of honour can read his pompous and overbearing Gen[l] Orders with patience ?—Who can bear to hear Officers stigmatized for failures arising from the improvidence and mismanagement at Headquarters ?—Who read his Gen[l] Order in which the Duke of Wellington is mentioned, and not despise the author of it ?—

His Biography previous to the present era, would occupy but a small part of a very small page—it might be comprized in a retreat from Roseau to Prince Rupert's without being

followed, and in the defence of a post which was never attacked.—What has followed in his present supreme command ?—and what alas ! I dread, is yet to follow ?—it were happy for himself and the Country under which he holds his commission, could it sink in everlasting oblivion.

A Free Speaker.

Archives, M. 897.

Enclosure.

Another extract from the same paper.

On the other side where we are most vulnerable, and where the greater number of Troops have been sent, the chief command is entrusted to a person of whom we never heard, until through the influence of interest, the infatuation of ministers, or the propitious stars of the United States, he suddenly started up amongst us.—is it to be wondered at that where ability and experience are not, that success should be wanting ? and that discomfiture should be the result of miserable mismanagement.—It is a fact readily ascertained if we take the trouble of comparing accounts, that more valuable Officers & men have lost their lives in Canada in proportion to the numbers employed, and the enemy opposed, without effecting any one thing of consequence, than the Duke of Wellington lost in the emancipation of Spain, and in accellerating the downfall of the Tyrant of Europe.—now is it possible to know this, without emotions of sorrow and indignation ?—to know that our Armies are frittered away—our best Officers killed—our Soldiers cut up in detail, and no compensation for the losses, no atonement for the sacrifices.—it is impossible to think of these things without deploring the blindness of Ministers—without execrating the cause, or causes, principal or subordinate, and

without ardently wishing those may be removed from whose conduct there is everything to fear, and no reason on which to ground the smallest degree of hope.—When we are better acquainted with the particulars of our late accounts from the Canadian frontier, the Conduct of the Hero of Sacketts Harbour, & of Plattsburg, shall call forth a few observations from an

ENGLISHMAN.

Archives, Q. 128—II, p. 516.

From Prevost at Quebec to Bathurst at Downing Street.

Private Quebec 20th Decr 1814.

My Lord,

The Letter of which I have the honor herewith to transmit a Copy to Your Lordship will I hope account satisfactorily for my inability to shew Your Lordship who did not do their duty in the Naval Combat off Plattsburg on the 11th of September, as I had proposed in my private communication of the 21st of that Month.

I would not lightly advance that a desire exists in the Naval Commander to stifle Enquiry but recent occurrences induce me to apprehend such a design, since it has been correctly ascertained that our Squadron upon that occasion was superior to that of the Enemy in every respect.

I have the honor to be
My Lord
Your Lordship's
Most Obedient and
Most Humble Servant
GEORGE: PREVOST.

Archives, Q. 128—II. p. 517.

Enclosure. From Yeo at Kingston to Prevost at ——.

Copy

H.M.S. S^{t}. Lawrence
Kingston 26th Nov^{r} 1814.

Sir.

I have had the honor to receive Your Excellency's Letter of the 20th Ins^{t} requesting to be informed of the result of the Trial of the Officer who Commanded the Gunboats on the 11th Sep^{t}.

I am sorry to inform you that, that Officer on his landing at Kingston late in the evening made his escape from the Person who had charge of him, and has not since been heard of, and as every search has been made round the Country for him, to no effect, I fear he has either gone over to the Enemy or drowned himself.

I have written to the Store-keeper at Quebec to look out for him should he make his appearance at that place.

I have &^{c}

(Signed) James Lucas Yeo
Commodore & Comm^{r} in Chief

Archives, M. 389—6, p. 287.

From Coore at Quebec to Yeo at ——.

Letter published in a Montreal newspaper.

Quebec, February 26th 1815.

Sir,

The attention of the Public has been excited by the appearance in the Newspapers of Your Despatch to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, after the late operation on Lake Champlain!

At the same time that I deprecate all intention of presumptuously assuming any interference with your Official

communication, the opinion expressed in your letter that, it appears to you, and you have good reasons to believe, that Captain Downie was urged, and his ship hurried into Action before she was in a fit state to meet the Enemy conveys an impression to have existed in your mind so very different from that, which I have ground for believing, Captain Downie himself entertained, and is moreover, (as well as the following part of your letter) so evident an insinuation of ill-judged influence and interference on the part of the Commander of the Forces, that in justice to that candour and liberality, which you certainly on this occasion must wish to exercise, I feel myself called upon to communicate to you, the impression left upon my mind (so much at Variance with your own) when two days before the Battle, I was sent by the Commander of the Forces to Cap^{t} Downie on Board the Confiance, at that time laying with the rest of the Flotilla about three miles below *Chazy*.

I beg leave plainly, and faithfully to state the facts, which was the gallant Captain Downie living, he could not but attest. Captain Pring was writing in the Cabin with him when I arrived. I presented the letter with which I had been charged by His Excellency : After perusing it, Captain Downie said with some warmth, " I am surprized Sir George Prevost should think it necessary to urge me upon this subject : he must feel assured, that I am as desirous of proceeding to active operations as he can be ; but I am responsible for the Squadron I command, and no man shall make me lead it into action before I consider it in a fit condition."

I may be inaccurate in my recollection of Captain Downie's every word exactly, but Captain Pring, who was present, must bear witness to what I have represented being the true Spirit and effect of his observations, which was moreover given with a positiveness of a Man who would be disposed to act upon it.

I then proceeded to describe to Captain Downie the Position of the Enemy's Squadron, which in obedience to the orders of the Commander of the Forces I had reconnoitred on my way to *Chazy*, but I did not convey, nor was I ordered to convey, any wish or opinion from His Excellency, that the Enemy's Squadron should be attacked in the Bay at anchor; nor do I recollect to have ever heard His Excellency advance an opinion as to the most eligible mode of engaging them.

Captain Downie at the same time that he estimated the arrangement of the strength on Board the Enemy's Vessels, collectively superior to his own; expressed himself full of confidence in a successful issue to the Battle. It is, Sir, from that same deference to candor, to which I appeal in your own Breast, and I must also add, from my anxiety for the fair reputation of a Gallant General, whom from seven years intimate experience I know to be brave, judicious, and devoted to the interest of the service, and of his Country, that I take the liberty of addressing to you, in consequence of your Public Letter, the sentiments I profess, and the facts I shall make known whenever my intercourse with Society affords me an opportunity.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your obd^{t} humble Servant
F. Lech Coore
Major & A.D.C.

I beg to add that this letter is transmitted to you entirely from the dictates of my own feelings & ideas and that Sir George Prevost is altogether ignorant of its being written.

F. L. C.

A true Copy
James Lucas Yeo.
Captain—

Archives, Q. 131, p. 162.

(*Transcript from the original in the Public Record Office, London.*)

From Sinclair at Montreal to Baynes at ——.

Copy Montreal 20th March 1815

Sir,

I have been favoured by your Letter of the 16th instant, and have the honor to state for the information of His Excellency the Commander of the Forces, that when the Army under the Orders of His Excellency advanced upon Plattsburg in last September, it was accompanied by three Light 6 Pounder Brigades complete, Two Light Bass [*sic*] 24 Pr Guns, one 8 Inch Brass Howitzer and Three 24 Pr Carronades, all mounted on Travelling carriages. On the Morning of the 6th Septemr the Brigades of the Line with 2 Brigades of Lt 6 Prs arrived before Plattsburg and the Enemy's advance being driven in they occupied the Town and surrounding Heights; After which His Excellency having reconnoitred his Position in the Course of that day and the next gave me instructions to bring forward the remainder of the Artillery, which had been left in rear (one Light Division of Guns exepted to remain at Chazy) and further to draw from the Garrison of Isle aux Noix 2 8 Inch Iron Mortars and two Iron 12 Prs with a proportion of Ammunition and Stores for them, as he had determined on erecting Batteries against the Enemy's Position.

The accompanying Plan will shew the distribution of the various Batteries as they attacked on the morning of the 11th September. The 12 Pounders (the only heavy Guns we had) for want of sufficient means of transport did not arrive until the forenoon of that day, and then no Battery had been prepared to receive them. Four light 6 Pounders and one Light 5⅘ Inch Howitzer with a proportion of Rockets

were ordered to move with the Troops, under Major General Robinson destined to cross the Saranac; the remaining Half Brigade of Light 6 Pounders was kept disposable. Betwixt 7 and 8, A.M on the 11th September I received His Excellency's Orders to direct the Batteries to open fire (commencing on the left) so soon as the first Gun should be discharged by the British Ship or Brig at one of the Enemy's Vessels, these orders I commanded at ¾ before 8 A.M; The British Fleet was then momentarily expected to round Cumberland Head, which it did shortly after; The Enemy's Fleet however keeping up an incessant and galling fire on the advancing British Ships, without a shot being returned. His Excellency dispatched me to the Left to accelerate the immediate opening of the Batteries, which was done, and soon the Cannonade became General from All our Batteries, and the Enemy's defences. On our Left the Batteries succeeded in silencing the Block House opposed to them and his Sea Batterie I have every reason to believe never fired (at least I could never perceive it from any situation in which I was placed) nor could I learn that it did: and from the nature of the ground, I could not ascertain, whether it was possible for that Battery to have annoyed our Fleet during the Action, or even that it was within Range of that of the Enemy—certainly no other of the Enemy's Works (that I ever discovered) could afford support or give an Annoyance to either of the Fleets by their Fire.—

Our Battery most to the Right being by no means completed, and exposed to an Overpowering and in some degree plunging fire within 700 yards of the Enemy's numerous and heavy Artillery mounted on his Redoubts, was unable long to keep up a brisk fire, and when I visited that Battery soon after it had opened, I found the fire on it so heavy, that I directed Captain Gordon who commanded it, not to Attract the Enemy's attention, but reserve his Fire, until he should perceive our Troops advancing to the Assault,

which support from this Battery would most materially have favored, all the Enemy's Guns being in Barbette and the more to distract the Enemy's Fire I placed a Light Half Brigade in an advantageous situation about 600 yards to its Left and Rear, which had a considerable effect in doing so; Soon after, however, the Carriges of both the Light 24 Pounders being considerable wounded, and several Men disabled, I directed Captain Gordon to place his Men under cover, and retire his Guns behind the Merlons, until circumstances should admit of using them to greater advantage. The rest of the Batteries and Rockets continued their fire until directed to cease about 3 P.M.

In compliance with His Excellency's Orders to prepare for a Retreat, the necessary Measures were taken to withdraw the Ordnance from the different Batteries which commenced at Dusk, and was effected without the smallest interruption, on the part of the Enemy. By 10 P.M. the whole was in Line of March for Canada into which every Piece of Ordnance of every description, which had crossed the province line was brought back—as was also the greater part of the Ammunition and Stores. Those from Plattsburg were embarked in Carts and Waggons except about 50,000 M.B. Cartridges (which was destroyed) and the round shot which had been brought for the 12 P^{rs} with a small quantity of shot & shells not possible to be taken out of the Batteries for want of means of Transport, which became necessarily inadequate to the removal of the whole at once from the increased proportion of Guns, Ammunition & Stores which had been brought up, from the Rear by such means as we were in possession of, and which could not be augmented by any recources to be found in the Enemy's Country. Several Waggons & Carts from being Overloaded (in order to remove as much as possible) and the extreme badness of the Roads broke down, leaving no alternative but to destroy them and their Contents. The Ammunition,

Stores &c placed in Depots in Rear being situated on Lake Champlain were nearly all embarked in Sloops, Batteaux &c and withdrawn.

At little Chazy about 50 shells were thrown into the Lake and I am informed that a Sloop laden with Stores (partly Ordnance Stores) unfortunately sank off Isle la Mothe and fell into the hands of the Enemy.

I have the Honor to be
Sir
Your most obed[t] humble Serv[t]
(Signed) JOHN SUTH SINCLAIR
Capt. & Major Commanding
Royal artillery on that Service

Archives, Adm. Sec. In Letters, Vol. 5450.

(*Transcripts from the originals in the Public Record Office, London.*)

THE PLATTSBURG COURT MARTIAL

18[th] to 21[st] August—1815

Captain Pring—the Officers and men employed in the Squadron on Lake Champlain.

At a Court Martial assembled on board His Majestys Ship Gladiator in Portsmouth Harbour on the eighteenth Day of August 1815 and continued by Adjournment from day to day (sunday excepted) until the 21[st] day of the same month.

Present

Peter Halkett Esquire Rear Admiral of the White and second Officer in the Command of His Majesty's Ships and Vessels at Spithead and in Portsmouth Harbour - - President

Captain Benjamin Will[m] Page	Captain Alex[r] Wilmot Schomberg
William Henry Webley	Charles Inglis
Hugh Pigot	Sir James Alex[r] Gordon KCB
Sir Thomas Staines K.C.B.	Edmund Boger
The Hon̄ble. Anthony Maitland	Sir Edward Tucker K.C.B.
Philip Pipon	Charles Dilkes

Pursuant to an order from the Right Honorable Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty dated the twelfth Day of August 1815 and directed to the President setting forth That Sir James Lucas Yeo K.C.B. Commodore and Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Ships and Vessels employed on the Lakes of Canada had transmitted to their Lordships attested Copies of two Letters dated the twelfth September 1814 from Captain *Daniel Pring* Commander of His Majestys late Brig Linnett and Lieutenant *Ja[s] Robertson* Commanding Officer of His Majesty's late ship Confiance detailing the particular circumstances attending the Capture of the above Vessels and the remainder of the Squadron employed on Lake Champlain by the American Squadron under the Command of Commodore M[c]Donough on the day preceding The Court proceeded to enquire into the cause and circumstances attending the Capture of His Majesty's late Ship Confiance the Brig Linnet and the remainder of the Squadron employed on Lake Champlain by the American Squadron under the Command of Commodore M[c]Donough on the 11[th] September 1814 and to try Captain Daniel Pring, the surviving Officers and Company of the said Squadron for their Conduct upon that occasion and having heard the Evidence produced and compleated such Enquiry and having maturely and deliberately weighed and considered the whole The Court is of opinion That the Capture of His Majesty's said late ship Confiance, the Brig Linnett and the Remainder of the said Squadron, by the said American Squadron, was principally

caused by the British Squadron having been urged into Battle previous to its being in a proper state to meet its Enemy by a promised Cooperation of the Land Forces, which was not carried into Effect and by the very pressing Letters and communications of their Commander in Chief, whereby it appears he had on the 10th of September 1814, only, waited the naval Attack, to storm the Enemy's Works and the Signal, of the approach of the British Squadron on the following day, by scaling the Guns of the Confiance had been settled between the late Captain Downie and Major Coore on the Evening of the 10th of that Month and which promised Cooperation was communicated to the other Officers and Crews of the British Squadron before the Commencement of the Action but the Court is further of opinion that the Attack would have been more effectual if part of the Gun Boats had not failed in their duty and if the British Squadron had not been early deprived of part of their Force by the fire of the Enemy and if others had not been prevented by the baffling winds from getting into the station assigned them that the said Captain Daniel Pring of the Linnett and Lieut[t] James Robinson who succeeded to the Command of the Confiance after the lamented fall of Captain Downie whose Conduct was marked by the most conspicuous Zeal and Valour and also the said Lieutenant *Christopher James Bell* Commander of the Gun Boat Murray and M[r] James Robertson Commander of the Gun Boat Marshall Beresford (who appeared to take their trials at this Court Martial) conducted themselves with great Zeal Bravery and Ability during the Action That Lieut[t] William Hicks Commander of the Cutter Finch also conducted himself in Action with becoming bravery That the other surviving Officers and Company of the before mentioned ships and Vessels and also of the Chubb (except Lieutenant James M[c]Ghie her Commander who has not appeared to take his Trial) also conducted themselves with proper Courage and the Court doth adjudge the said Captain Daniel Pring, Lieu-

tenant James Robinson, Lieutenant William Hicks, Lieutenant Christopher James Bell and Mr James Robertson and the rest of the surviving Officers and Company of the before mentioned Ships and Vessels (except the said Lieutenant James McGhie) to be most honorably acquitted.—and they are hereby most honourably acquitted accordingly.

P. Halkett

B: W: Page	A: W. Schomberg
Wm Hy Webley	Charles Inglis
H. Pigot	James A. Gordon
T: Staines	E. Boger
A W B Maitland	Edwd Tucket
P: Pipon	Charles Dilkes

M. Greetham
Depy Judge Advc of the Fleet

Doc. signed

Minute :—25 Augt.

Usual Order given to pay off the Ships & Vessels of the Squadron.

M. W. C.

Mr Innes.

H P
Sep. 17. 1815.

Minutes taken at a Court Martial assembled on board His Majesty's Ship, Gladiator, in Portsmouth Harbour on the eighteenth Day of August 1815, and continued by adjournment until the twenty first of the said Month.

Present

Peter Halkett Esquire, Rear Admiral of the White and second Officer in the Command of His Majesty's Ships and Vessels at Spithead and in Portsmouth Harbour . . . President

Captains, Benjamin William Page . .
William Henry Webley,
Hugh Pigot,
Sir Thomas Staines, K,C,B.
The Honorable Anthony Maitland . . .
Philip Pipon,
Captains Alexander Wilmot Schomberg, . .
Charles Inglis,
Sir James Alexander Gordon, K.C.B. . . .
Edmund Boger.
Sir Edward Tucker, K.C.B.
Charles Dilkes,

Captain Daniel Pring, and the surviving Officers and Company of His Majestys Squadron employed on Lake Champlain were brought in and Audience admitted.

The Order from The Right Honorable Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty dated the 12th Day of August 1815, and directed to the President, setting forth That Sir James Lucas Yeo, K.C.B. late Commodore and Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Ships and Vessels employed on the Lakes of Canada, had transmitted to their Lordships attested Copies of two Letters dated the 12th September 1814 from Captain Daniel Pring, Commander of His Majesty's late Brig Linnet, and Lieutenant Robertson Commanding Officer of His Majesty's late Ship, Confiance detailing the particular circumstances attending the Capture of the above Vessels, and the remainder of the Squadron employed on Lake Champlain by the American Squadron under the Command of Commodore McDonough on the Day preceeding. And directing a Court Martial to be assembled to enquire into the cause and circumstances attending the Capture of His Majesty's late ship, Confiance, the Brig, Linnet, and the remainder of the Squadron employed on Lake Champlain, by the American Squadron under the Command of Commodore McDonough on the 11th September 1814. and to try Captain Daniel Pring, the surviving Officers, and Company of the said Squadron, for their conduct upon that occasion was read,

The President reported to the Court, That Captain Peter Rainier was absent on Admiralty leave.

Mr William Hamilton, Surgeon of His Majestys ship Vengeur, being sworn, said That Captain Tristram Robert Ricketts was ill, and incapable of attending his Duty as a Member of the Court, without danger to his Health.

The Members of the Court and the Judge Advocate then in open Court, and before they proceeded to Trial respectively took the several Oaths enjoined and directed, in and by an Act of Parliament, made and passed in the twenty second Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King George the second, intituled "An Act for amending, explaining, "and reducing into one Act of Parliament the Laws relating "to the Government of His Majesty's ships, Vessels, and "Forces by Sea."

Then the attested Copies of two Letters dated the 12th September 1814, from the said Captain Daniel Pring, and the said Lieutenant Robertson as referred to in their Lordships abovementioned Order, were read and are hereto annexed.

To the Officers, Commanding the different Vessels—

Q. Have you any further narrative of the Transactions to deliver to the Court ?

Captain Pring also produced, and read a further Narrative of the Transactions, which is hereto annexed.

Lieutenant James Robertson late first Lieutenant of His Majesty's Ship, Confiance, also produced and read a further Narrative of the Transactions, which is hereto annexed.

Lieutenant William Hicks also produced, and read a further Narrative of the Transactions, which is hereto annexed.

To Captain Pring and the other Commanding Officers.

Q. Have either of you any Complaint to make against any of the other Officers, or Crews of the Squadron respecting their Conduct on the occasion.

A. No, except what has been stated in the Letters.

Lieutenant Christopher James Bell, said, That he had a Complaint to make against Captain Roumzie, of the Canadian Militia, and most of the Militia with him, who were in the Murray, which he commanded, and of not being properly supported by the principal Part of the Gun Boats.

M^r James Robertson said, That there were four Gun Boats engaged, three of them, the Murray, Lieutenant Bell Commander, Marshall Beresford myself Commander, the Popham, M^r Allen Masters Mate, Commander, the fourth I believe the Wellington, (but I am not certain) M^r Wymes Commander, they were close engaged, they came up as directed ; four or five others were laying foul of one another apparently in great Confusion and cheering out of range of shot, I do not know who commanded them, I had only joined my Boat the Day before, and only knew them that were close engaged.

To the Seamen and others.

Q. Have any of you any Complaint to make against any of the Officers as to their Conduct on the Occasion ?

A. No.

Lieutenant William Drew, late of His Majesty's late Brig, Linnet, called in, and sworn.

Commodore Sir James Lucas Yeo asked.

Q. Was the Enemy enabled to take possession of the British Squadron immediately after the action ?

A. No.

Q. What time elapsed before they were able to take possession ?

A. They took possession of the Linnet by sending an Officer on board about half an hour after the Action, but the people were not removed for many hours afterwards.

Q. Did the Enemy sometime after the Action quit the situation in which they fought, and to what place did they move ?

A. Yes, they removed to near Crab Island.

Q. Was the Enemy in their new position out of the fire of their Battaries ?

A. Yes.

The Court asked

Q. Was the Linnet within Gun Shot of Crab Island, Platsburg, or any other part of the Shore during the Action ?

A. Within fire of Platsburg but not of Crab Island.

Q. Did she receive the fire from Platsburg ?

A. Not that we observed, their Gun Boats were lying under the Batteries if the Batteries had fired we could not observe it for the smoke.

Q. Was the Confiance between the Linnet and Crab Island, and did she receive the fire from Platsburg ?

A. She was between the Linnet and Crab Island, she might have received the fire from the Batteries, as they were firing at the same time the Fleet were in Action.

Q. Did you witness the Conduct of the Chub during the Action ?

A. Yes particularly.

Q. State it to the Court ?

A. She was commanded by Lieutenant M^{c}Ghie, I observed her pass between the Linnet and Confiance, then between the Confiance and Saratoga apparently in a very disabled State with her Colours struck, this was about a Quarter of an hour after the action commenced, she was drifting not steering, I expected at first she had anchored before I observed her drifting.

Q. If the Army had attacked Platsburg during the Action would it have materially assisted the Squadron ?

A. Yes, most certainly.

Q. State your reasons for saying so ?

A. In the first place we were within Shot of the Works, secondly their Gun Boats had taken up an advantageous Position under the Batteries, and had the Batters been in our possession they would have been enabled not only to have

destroyed the Gun Boats, but to have rendered the Fleet great assistance by commencing their fire on the Enemy's Line.

Q. Would it have drawn the Attention of the Gun Boats from you had the Army attacked.

A. Yes.

Q. Was the American Ship, Saratoga, struck by a red hot shot ?

A. On my being taken on board the Saratoga, Commodore M^c^Donough observed we had made use of red hot shot, and I observed red hot shot had passed through the folds (after it was brailed up.) of the Spanker.

Q. Did any of the British Squadron or the Gun Boats fire red hot Shot or were they furnished with Furnaces to heat them ?

A. No.

Q. Did it come to your knowledge that any of the American Squadron did so ?

A. It did not.

Q. Do you apprehend where the red hot shot came from ?

A. It came from the shore.

Q. From what part of the Shore ?

A. From the South of the Saranac, from the Enemy, I think the British Batteries, could scarcely have reached.

Q. Did the British fire from the American shore at the Squadron ?

A. No.

Q. You have said that the Chub drifted past the Confiance, and the Linnet a short time after the Action began, and that you observed her particularly. Do you know if she had previously done her Duty ?

A. In standing in I saw her fire one Broadside but no more.

Q. Where is her late Commander Lieutenant M^c^Ghie ?

A. I do not know.

Q. Were you prevented by the smoke from seeing more of the Conduct of the Chub ?

A. Yes, but from her drifting in as I stated before, I could not help taking particular notice of her.

Q. Had she struck ?

A. She had struck, her Colours were down ; and I saw no exertion to get them up again, the peak of her mainsail was down, and no head sails whatever up, and I only observed one Man on Deck.

Q. What Gun Boat did Lieutenant Raynham command, and did you observe her Conduct ?

A. Lieutenant Raynham commanded the first Division, in which Boat he was I do not know, I observed four Gun Boats in close Action, the others at a distance I do not know the Boats that were in Action Lieutenant Raynham I understand deserted while on his way to Kingston to be tried by a Court Martial for his Conduct on that occasion, his name does not appear in the Monthly List of Lieutenants.

Q. Do you know that the Finch got on Shore on Crab Island ?

A. Yes, she struck on a reef of Rocks extending to the North East of Crab Island.

Q. Had she previously done her Duty

A. I did not particularly observe her throughout the Action.

Q. After you were a Prisoner had you an Opportunity of seeing or knowing in what State the Chub was as to Damages she may have received and Shot in Action ?

A. I had no Opportunity.

Q. Did you observe the Finch strike ?

A. I did not, but I observed her Colours up on my passing from the Linnet to the Confiance, after the latter had struck, I did not observe that the Enemy were then firing on her.

Q. Did the British Army attack the American Army during the Action with the Ships ?

A. No, they bombarded the Works only.

Captain Pring asked.

Q. Do you think it safe to risque an Action, with an Enemy under the unfavourable Circumstances that existed in the British Squadron without Assistance, by co-operation from the Land Forces ?

A. Certainly not.

Q. Was it safe to risk an Action with such Co-operation ?

A. There was every prospect of success.

Q. Do you know of any preconcerted Scheme, entered into between the Commander of the Land Forces, and Captain Downie for Co-operation ?

A. I only know it from information from Captain Pring, the Evening before and on the morning of the Action.

Q. Was such Scheme carried into Execution.

A. No.

Q. What was my individual Conduct during the Action on the eleventh of September ?

A. That of a brave and zealous Officer.

Q. Was it cool ?

A. Perfectly.

Q. Could the Linnet at any time have done more Execution against the Enemy than she did ?

A. No.

Q. Do you conceive there would have been any use in making further resistance against the Enemy when I struck my Colours ?

A. No, every hope of success, or escape, having entirely vanished.

Q. Could the Linnet after the Confiance had struck have effected her Escape ?

A. Not unless we had been towed out by the Gun Boats, which were off and were rounding Cumberland Head.

Q. With the exception of that part of my Letter of the twelfth of September relative to the Conduct of the Chub

do you think it contains correct statements as far as came within your knowledge ?

A. Yes

Q. Did you conceive the whole to be correct at the time written ?

A. From the Reports of the different Commanding Officers, I thought it perfectly so.

Q. Could I have been aware from the Chub's movements during the Action that my Statement relative to her Conduct was not correct ?

A. I think you could not.

Q. Did I read my official Letter of the twelfth to you and Lieutenant Robertson on board the Saratoga and ask each of you seperately if you thought it contained correct Statements ?

A. Yes.

Q. What were your Answers thereto ?

A. Every thing was perfectly correct as far as came within my knowledge or something to that purport.

Mr Robert Anderson Brydon late Master of His Majestys late Ship, Confiance, called in and sworn.

Sir James Lucas Yeo asked.

Q. When was the Confiance launched ?

A. On the twenty fifth of August about half past four o'Clock in the Evening.

Q. How many Days was that before the Action ?

A. Sixteen Days.

Q. How many Days before the Action did the Ship receive her Crew, and did they all join at one time ?

A. To the best of my recollection the major part were embarked six Days before the Action, the remainder on the ninth of September then laying off Chazy.

Q. Do you know the general state of the Confiance when she went into Action and what was it ?

A. She was in general unprepared by her Men being unacquainted with each other, and with the Officers, the Guns had been exercised two or three times previous to the Engagement, the Guns in general worked very heavy, owing to the Decks being rough scraped, and a quantity of Pitch on them, there were temporary Locks fitted from Carronade Locks.

Q. Had Captain Downie had a few more Days would it have been beneficial to His Majesty's Service

A. In my Opinion it would have been highly beneficial.

Q. Had the Confiance Scrapers and other materials for scraping her Decks, and had she time to do it, if she had had them ?

A. She had Scrapers and Materials for scraping her Decks, but had not time in my Opinion to clean them.

Q. What induced Captain Downie to go into Action in so unprepared a state ?

A. When I went with Captain Downie in the Gig to reconnoitre the Enemy's Position about half past seven in the morning of the eleventh (the day of Action) he then informed me of his mode of Attack, and he also said that at the same time we commenced our Action, the Troops on shore were to storm the Enemys Forts.

Q. Do you conceive that to be Captain Downies motive for going into Action ?

A. I do.

Q. How was the Enemies Squadron moored at the time of the Action ?

A. They were moored in a line of battle extending about a mile about North North East, and South South West under cover of their Batteries, near Platsburg on the West Side of the Bay, and their Gun Boats in two Divisions, in shore of their Squadron.

Q. Had the British Land Forces stormed the Enemy's Works at the time of the naval Action would it materially

have assisted our Squadron by drawing their attention from our Squadron or obliging the Enemy's Squadron to quit the Bay.

A. If the English Forces had got possession of their Batteries it would materially have added to our Advantage it would have drove their Gun Boats and likewise their ships (Saratoga and Eagle) from the Position they then held and allowed us to take Advantage of the Confusion that must have taken place at that time on board the American Squadron.

Q. Were the Enemy's Works stormed by the British ?

A. Not to the best of my knowledge.

Q. Do you think our Squadron would have been successful, if theirs had been obliged to quit the Bay ?

A. I think they would;

Q. Did you see any mark of red hot Shot, on board the Saratoga ?

A. No, I saw her on fire during the Action on the Main Deck, and saw in Commodore M^c^Donoughs official Dispatch that it was stated to have been occasioned by red hot Shot.

Q. Where must that red hot Shot have come from ?

A. In my opinion it must have come from the Enemy's Battery, as none of our Squadron had the means of preparing red hot Shot and the Enemys Flotilla were not within reach of the English Batteries I think.

Q. In going into Action when you and Captain Downie were on the Poop what did he say to you ?

A. Our Conversation generally was on the conducting the ships. About five minutes after the Enemy commenced their fire he was anxiously looking to the Shore, and said he could not conceive what they were about, and did not observe them moving, we anchored in about five minutes afterwards and then commenced the Action on our parts, he was alluding to the British Force on shore at that time.

Q. Was there any preconcerted Signal between the Commander of the Forces and Captain Downie ?

A. I cannot speak positively but understood the Guns were scaled as a Signal for the purpose of the Forces preparing to co-operate, this I understood from Lieutenant Robertson first Lieutenant of the Confiance.

Q. What distance from the British Forces on Shore was the Confiance when the Guns were scaled ?

A. Between six and seven Miles, and the wind blowing directly toward the British Forces, or nearly so, they could not see the British Squadron at the time I think, unless they had a look out at Cumberland Head which was in our possession, they must have heard them scaled.

Q. How long was it after the Guns were scaled that the Squadron was in Action ?

A. About two hours.

Q. How long until the close of the Engagement ?

A. About four hours and a half.

Q. Did Captain Downie inform his Crew that a Co-operation was to take place.

A. Yes, in rounding Cumberland Head, the Hands were turned up and sent aft, he then said, " There are the Enemy's Ships, our Army are to storm the Enemy's works at the moment we engage, and mind don't let us be behind," the people cheered and returned to their Quarters.

Q. Did that Conversation appear to inspire the Crew ?

A. I think it did.

Q. Did Lieutenant Robertson acquaint the Crew that a Co-operation was to take place on shore ?

A. I did not hear him.

Q. What sail could you have set in the Confiance had they been in our possession to have got under the Batteries after she struck ?

A. She could have set sufficient Sail to have run her under the Batteries.

Q. Were the Enemy in a very disabled state after the Action which prevented their taking immediate possession of ours ?

A. Apparently, from the time that expired between the Confiance striking and their taking possession of her, they were about three quarters of an hour, they sent two Gun Boats at the expiration of three quarters of an hour, they did not take the people out for five hours after the Action.

Q. Was it safe to risk the Action with Assistance from the Land Forces ?

A. I think it was.

Q. Was it without ?

A. No.

Q. Do you think Captain Downie went into Action, under the expectation of Assistance from the Land Forces, and would he have gone into Action without the hope of such Co-operation ?

A. I think he went into Action with the thoughts of being co-operated with on Shore, and without that help I think he would not have risked the Action.

The Court asked.

Q. Did he say any thing to you on the subject ?

A. He mentioned to me that he expected a Co-operation in the Morning, I was with him in the gig.

Sir James Lucas Yeo asked.

Q. Did the Enemy begin to move their squadron from under the Guns of their Batteries immediately after the Action ?

A. As soon as they could prepare them for getting under way, and moved them to the Southward, and Eastward, or rather without Crab Island, and in that position they were out of the fire of their Batteries at Platsburg.

The Court asked.

Q. Of what Nations did the Crew of the Confiance consist ?

A. Chiefly of the United Kingdom, there were some Foreigners, no Canadians, to my knowledge.

Q. Were great exertions made by the Officers and Crews to fit out the Squadron and prepare it to meet the Enemy ?

A. From the time of the Confiance being launched, until the Day of the Action the exertions of the Officers and Crews of the Confiance could not be surpassed the rest of the Squadron had been prepared for Service some time before.

Q. Are the Charts N°. 1. 2. 3. 4 correct Copies to the best of your knowledge and belief ?

A. They are.

Q. Can you assign any reason for the track of the Finch being marked thereon as it is ?

A. To the best of my knowledge it was from the Wind baffling as she drew in.

Q. Do you think she was able to get to her Station ?

A. I think not, but I cannot speak positively.

Q. Could the Confiance, or any of the Squadron have got under the protection of the English Batteries on the North Side of the Surinac, when they found the Army did not attack the Enemy's Batteries ?

A. No.

Q. Why ?

A. The Wind blowing nearly from that Point.

Q. Do you conceive there would have been any use in my making further resistance against the Enemy when I struck my Colours ?

A. As the wind was then, I do not think that you could have made any further resistance.

The Court asked.

Q. Did you at any time observe the Finch within Pistol Shot of any one of the Enemy's Vessels and more particularly this Sloop ?

A. No.

Q. Had she ever been in that Situation must you have seen her ?

A. She might have been and I not see her.

Q. Do you believe the Track laid down of the Finch to be correct ?

A To the best of my knowledge it is but I cannot speak positively, the Track is ideal.

Captain Pring asked

Q. Could the Linnett have done more execution against the Enemy during the Action than she did, or have attended more fully to the execution of Captain Downies Orders in taking her position for the attack ?

A. To the best of my knowledge I think she could not.

Q. State to the Court the Conduct of the Chubb on the eleventh of September in the Action with the Enemy ?

A. After we rounded Cumberland Head the Chubb was on the Confiances Starboard quarter I did not observe her Conduct until about fifteen minutes after we anchored, I then observed her on the Confiances Larboard Bow, she drifted between the Saratoga and Confiance very slow, and prevented the Confiance from firing for some minutes, she drifted between the Saratoga and Ticonderago and was taken possession of by the Enemy.

Q. When you did observe her at first had she her Colours struck or how long afterwards ?

A. I could not see any Colours the peak of her mainsail was down.

Lieutenant Robertson asked.

Q. If the Finch had kept her Wind, when rounding Cumberland Head could she have fetched sufficiently into the Bay to have reached the Object she was to engage ?

A. I think she might had the wind continued the same as when we rounded Cumberland Head the wind shifted from North North East to West North West.

Q. Was the Finch from her Construction and Rigging as capable of holding as good a Wind as the Confiance and from the Draft of Water as capable of approaching as near Cumberland Head ?

A. She could hold as good a Wind and drew two feet less water than the Confiance.

Q. During the whole Action and particularly after the fall of Captain Downie did I exert myself to the utmost in encouraging the Crew to continue the Action and what was my Conduct in every other respect ?

A. He used every exertion to stimulate the Crew to continue the Action, in every other respect his Conduct was for the good of His Majesty's Service.

Q. Under the existing Circumstances when the Colours of the Confiance were struck, was there any other Alternative ?

A. Under the circumstances we were then under there was none.

Q. In your Opinion what prevented the Confiance from sinking in the Action ?

A. The Larboard Guns being run in mostly and the Larboard [*sic*] ones out and double shotted, kept the ship with a Heel to starboard, and prevented the shot holes from going under water.

Q. Were all but four Guns on the Larboard side of the Confiance dismounted, and disabled in the Action ?

A. They were.

Q. Were any exertions made after the Confiance had struck, to keep her from sinking for the preservation of the wounded ?

A. Yes, by pumping and bailing at the Hatchway's.

Q. Were they then in extreme danger of being drowned ?

A. Several in the Gun room were obliged to be moved, from the Water being on the Gun room Deck.

Q. Shortly after the Confiance anchored in the Action were you sent below by Captain Downie to ascertain if any of the people were there ?

A. I was, and I found one Seaman slightly wounded, I sent him on Deck, and he was afterwards killed or severely wounded, I do not know which.

Q. On your return upon Deck did I meet you about the main Hatchway and what were my expressions ?

A. He said that Captain Downie had fallen, to go forward and cheer the men, but not to let them know of Captain Downies fall.

Q. Did I speak to you in a suppressed Tone of Voice, and for the purpose of not being heard by the Crew ?

A. Yes.

Q. After Captain Downie fell did I send you twice to the Officers of the foremost Quarters to direct that they must point their Guns to the Enemy's ship and not to the Brig ?

A. I do recollect going twice but I think that the first time was before Captain Downie fell.

Q. Were the Guns exercised previous to the Action as often as the short time would admit ?

A. They were.

Q. Was every exertion made by Captain Downie for the equipment of the ship previous to the Action ?

A. Every exertion possible.

The Court asked

Q. Was any Signal made to the Finch to keep her Wind after rounding Cumberland Head ?

A. None to the best of my knowledge.

Q. Was there any Signal made to the Squadron to advance in close Order towards the Enemy ?

A. No, Captain Downie had previously given personal Orders and Directions, to the Officers commanding the different Vessels.

Q. Did it appear to you that any blame attached to the Commanding Officer of the Finch ?

A. I could not account for his getting on the reef, I cannot speak positively to her Conduct before she got aground.

Q. What distance was the Finch from the Confiance when you rounded Cumberland Head ?

A. About half a Mile she was on our Larboard Quarter to Leeward.

Q. Did the Confiance fetch up to an Anchorage abreast of the Enemy ?

A. Yes.

Q. Was the Finch in a Situation to have so done had she kept her Wind as the Confiance did ?

A. If she had hauled as close round Cumberland Head.

Q. Was there anything to prevent her keeping at the half Mile distance from the Confiance ?

A. I suppose as soon as he opened the rear of the Enemy's Line, being the Vessel she was ordered to attack he steered directly for her, when he steered directly for her and the Wind, baffling it might prevent his reaching the Vessel he was ordered to engage, we in the Confiance did not steer immediately for the Vessel we were to attack, but kept the Wind, as close as the ship could keep her Way good.

Q. Did it appear to you that the Finch did not in any way wish to withdraw back from the Action.

A. I never conceived that she did.

Q. How long was it after you rounded Cumberland Head until you were in Action ?

A. About twenty minutes.

Q. How long was you seen from Platsburg before you commenced the Action ?

A. They could discover our Masts I think about an hour and a half before we commenced the Action.

Lieutenant Robertson asked.

Q. Did Captain Downie add when he gave his final Orders to the Officers commanding that he was so particular to prevent the necessity of making Signals during the Action ?

A. I cannot say.

Henry Cox, late Carpenter of His Majesty's late Ship, Confiance, called in and sworn.

The Court asked.

Q. State to the Court how far the Confiance was ready for Action when she went into it ?

A. She had only one Pump fit for Service, and the other I had to finish during the time she was in Action, some of the Bolts in the Sides (breaching Bolts) were not perfectly clinched neither was there a Cleet or belaying Pin, fit to belay a Rope to, and the Ship was in an unfinished State altogether.

Q. Did any of the Bolts draw in the Action ?

A. Yes, three or four to my knowledge.

Q. How long had the Magazine been finished ?

A. It was finished about twelve o'Clock at night, about four Days before the Action.

Q. Did you and your Crew work at it, until twelve o'Clock at night ?

A. No, the Contractor that built her and his people, the Joiner of the Yard.

Q. Had you shot Plugs ready ?

A. Yes.

Lieutenant Robertson asked.

Q. On the Day the Confiance left Isle Aux noix do you know that the principle part of the Powder was put into a Boat and towed astern of the Confiance until it was put into one of the Magazines that was finished that Evening ?

A. I remember the Boat was stowed astern with the Powder until the fore Magazine had some little Jobs doing to it.

Q. Did the Contractors and other Workmen join us and remain on board the Confiance while she was advancing to the Enemy to compleat the Magazine Passages and the other Equipments of the Ship ?

A. Yes, until we were in sight of the Enemy, about twenty five Workmen in number, when they left us.

Q. Did you drive in any shot Plugs during the Action and how many ?

A. Twelve.

Q. What Water was there in the Ship at the time she struck ?

A. Three Feet and six Inches.

Q. What Water did the Ship draw ?

A. Eight Feet and six Inches abaft, seven Feet and four Inches forward.

Q. Were the wounded frequently removed from place to place to prevent being drowned ?

A. Yes, they were.

Q. Is the statement of the Defects in your Department and now before the Court the same you gave to me, and are they in every respect correct ?

A. The same I gave to M^r^ Robertson are correct, and the one now shewn to me is that which I gave to him, which was marked N^o^ 5 and was read and is hereto annexed.

The Court asked.

Q. Do you know if there were Locks for the Guns on board ?

A. I do not know.

Alexander Brown, Captains Coxswain, of His Majesty's late Ship, Confiance called in and sworn.

Sir James Lucas Yeo asked.

Q. Was you on the Quarter Deck of the Confiance, when Captain Downie told the Ships Company the Enemy's Works were to be stormed by the British Troops at the same time of the naval Action ?

A. Yes.

M^r^ John Bodell a Midshipman late belonging to His Majesty's late Cutter Chubb called in and Sworn.

The Court asked.

Q. Relate to the Court what was the Cause of the Chubbs drifting between the English and American Squadron during the Action ?

A. She had all her Sails shot away, her fore stay, and mainboom, peak and throat haulyards, and fore haulyards, the foresail unrove, and towing over her Lee Bow.

Q. Did she anchor previous to that time ?

A. No.

Q. Did she strike her Colours ?

A. Yes, she anchored after she struck her Colours.

Q. What was the Cause of her, striking her Colours so early ?

A. She had five Men killed, and sixteen Wounded, there were only six Men on Deck at the time.

Q. Where were the rest ?

A. We had ten Soldiers belonging to the thirty ninth Regiment, two of them were killed, and one wounded the second broadside, and seven of them went below, leaving their Quarters, two Marines, likewise they left their Quarters, Newton and Barnett, they afterwards deserted out of Prison or on the Road going to Canada after the Peace one Seaman left the Quarters, John Shenfield who also deserted coming out of Prison.

Q. Do you know why the Chubb did not anchor, before she came to Action ?

A. I did not receive an Order to let go an Anchor.

Q. Was Lieutenant M^{c}Ghie wounded and at what period of the Action ?

A. The second Broadside from the American Brig ; he had two of his Fingers Ends cut off and wounded in the Thigh by a Splinter.

Q. Was he carried below ?

A. I could not see there was a Crowd about him, I was at the Helm, I could not get a man to take the Helm.

Q. To whom did the Command devolve ?

A. To me.

Q. Did it appear to you that the Conduct of Lieutenant M^{c}Ghie was that of a brave Man before he was wounded, and went below.

A. Yes, he seemed to be very brave before he was wounded.

Q. How soon did he come on Deck after he was wounded ?

A. After the Americans had taken possession of the Vessel.

Q. Who gave Orders to strike the Colours ?

A. Lieutenant M^c^Ghie he was down below, he sent for me, he asked me how we got on, on Deck, I said, I have only a few Men on Deck, six or seven Men at their Quarters, and the starboard Hammock Netting was on fire, I had two or three getting the Hammocks out, and throwing Water on the fire, he told me to strike the Colours, I went upon Deck, and struck the Colours.

Q. Where was the Vessel at that time ?

A. She was on the Starboard Quarter of the American Brig outside the American Squadron, about half a Mile from them, we drifted in between the Confiance, and the Linnett before we struck.

Q. Had she her Complement of Officers and Men on board ?

A. No.

Q. How many was she short ?

A. About ten short, no Mate.

Q. What was you rated on board ?

A. Midshipman.

Q. Had you a Master ?

A. No, she had a Mate, but he was attached to one of the Gun Boats he died in Canada.

Q. Would you have gone below at that time if you had been wounded in the same way that Lieutenant M^c^Ghie was ?

A. I cannot describe the Pain he might have had in his Thigh, but with regard to his Fingers I would not.

Q. If you ever saw the wound in his Thigh, describe to the Court what sort of Wound it was ?

A. It was bruized all the way up and down after he got on board the American Brig, it was black and yellow, it drew

blood from about the centre of his Thigh, the blow knocked him down.

Q. After the Americans took possession of the Chubb did he come on Deck or was he brought ?

A. Two Men hauled him up by the Arms, and helped him into the Americans Boat.

Q. Did the Men desert their Quarters before the Lieutenant was wounded.

A. No.

Q. How soon afterwards ?

A. About five minutes afterwards.

Q. When you were ordered to strike the Colours could you have made any further resistance ?

A. No.

Q. Were any of your Guns dismounted ?

A. No.

Q. Had the Confiance struck before the Chubb ?

A. No, the Chubb struck first.

Q. Was it the Vessel that could make no further resistance, or the Crews deserting their Quarters ?

A. The Crew deserting their Quarters and so many of the Men killed and wounded.

Q. Why did you not come to an Anchor after the Lieutenant went below ?

A. We were in the range of the Confiance shot.

Q. When did the Chubb receive her Damages was it before she got into the Range of the Confiance shot ?

A. It was before.

Q. Why did you not then come to an Anchor ?

A. After we received the Damages we got all the sweeps out, ten of them and they were shot away, nearly as fast as they were got out, I never thought of letting go an Anchor.

Q. Have you had any conversation with Lieutenant M^{c}Ghie since the Capture of the Chubb respecting the Action ?

A. Yes.

Q. How long was you in Action with the American Brig ?

A. About twenty Minutes.

Q. How many Broadsides did you fire ?

A. About twelve or thirteen, about seventy Cartridges were expended to the best of my knowledge.

Q. Had the Confiance and Linnet anchored before you commenced Action ?

A. Yes the Confiance had anchored but not sprung her Broadside too before we came to Action.

Q. Had any preparation been made in the Chubb for anchoring ?

A. Yes, the Springs bent too, and everything in readiness.

Q. Was the Chubb ordered to attack any particular part of the Enemy's Squadron ?

A. From what I learnt from Lieutenant M^{c}Ghie she was to attack the American Brig.

Captain Pring asked.

Q. In the Situation the Chubb was and drifting towards the Enemy's largest Ship, and under the fire of their other Vessels at the time you state the Crew to have quitted their Quarters, could it have been expected that they would remain at their Quarters, under such Circumstances ?

A. Yes.

Q. Did you pass between the Enemy's Vessels within Musquet Shot before the Colours were struck ?

A. Nearly upon it.

Lieutenant Robertson asked.

Q. Could the Chubb by holding her wind after rounding Cumberland Head, have taken an Advantageous Position on the Bow of the Eagle, and not be exposed to so heavy a fire from her ?

A. Yes, she might.

Q. Were you at Captain Downie's Funeral ?

A. Yes.

Q. Was Lieutenant M^{c}Ghie there ?

A. Yes.

Q. Had he to walk a considerable time from landing until he arrived at the burying Ground, and were the Road and Weather very bad ?

A. Yes.

Q. Did he appear to feel any inconvenience from walking ?

A. Yes, by what he mentioned the next Day, but he was not assisted.

Q. How long after the Action was Captain Downie buried ?

A. Two Days.

Q. What Conversation had you with Lieutenant M^c^Ghie after the Action on that Subject ?

A. He asked me how long it might be before I struck the Colours after I went below, I told him ten or fifteen Minutes.

At four o'Clock The Court adjourned until nine o'Clock Tomorrow Morning.

At nine o'Clock A.M. the nineteenth of August 1815 The Court met according to Adjournment.

Sir James Lucas Yeo, sworn.

The Court asked.

Q. Look on the Letters of the 7^th^ 8^th^, 9^th^ and 10^th^ of September 1814 Are the signatures to the same of the Handwriting of Lieutenant General Sir George Provost ?

A. They are.

M^r^ John Bodell called in again.

The Court asked.

Q. Are any of the Men who remained on Deck of the Chubb now on board this Ship ?

A. Yes, Benjamin Cruize William Lovering and John Griffiths.

Benjamin Cruize, a Seaman belonging to His Majesty's late Cutter, Chubb, called in, and sworn.

Q. Did many of the Crew of the Chubb quit their Quarters and go below ?

A. I saw none go below, I was at work at the six Pounder on the Top Gallant Forecastle.

Q. Did you see any one go down after she struck ?

A. I saw no one go down until after the Americans boarded us.

Q. Did you know if Lieutenant M^c^Ghie went down during the Action ?

A. I did not see him go down, I heard he was gone down.

Q. Did you miss him off the Deck during the Action ?

A. Yes, I heard he was wounded.

Q. How many had you killed and wounded on board the Chubb ?

A. Four killed, I cannot say how many wounded.

Q. Do you know at what time the Colours were struck ?

A. I cannot tell the time, we were between the American Brig and Ship when they were struck, I struck them by the Order of M^r^ Bodell.

Q. What Damage had the Chubb received when the Colours were struck ?

A. Her Jib Boom shot away, Head of her Bowsprit shattered, forestay gone, foresail half overboard, the main boom damaged right over the Hatchway, it still spread the Sail, throat and peak Haulyards gone, no Guns disabled, I hauled three Hammocks out of the Netting which were on fire and threw them overboard.

Q. To the best of your recollection how many Men were on Deck when you struck the Colours ?

A. About six or seven as nigh as I can tell.

Q. Where were the rest of the people ?

A. Down below I suppose.

Q. How long before you struck the Colours had you ceased firing ?

A. I suppose it might be about six or eight minutes.

Q. Did every Officer and Man in the Chubb do their Duty as brave Men during the Action with the Enemy ?

A. The Officers did I think, one Shanfield the Boatswain, I did not see him on Deck, a Marine I do not know his Name, I did not see him on Deck, I saw the Soldiers at the beginning of the Action, but they did not stop long, one of the thirty ninth was laying on Deck dead.

Q. Did you see Lieutenant M^{c}Ghie after the Vessel had struck, when he came on Deck or was brought on Deck ?

A. I saw him on Deck some time after, about half an hour after they took possession, he walked as far as the Companion I did not see any assistance given to him.

Q. Did it appear to you that the Wounds of Lieutenant M^{c}Ghie were of such a Nature as to require his quitting the Deck in Action and remaining below.

A. I did not see his Wounds, he was wounded in the fingers, I do not know where else.

Q. When you struck the Colours of the Chubb by Order, was the Vessel capable of making further resistance ?

A. We had no sail we could set, if the men who had gone below had staid on Deck, I think we could have made a little further resistance.

Q. Did M^{r} Bodell stay on Deck the whole time and conduct himself as a brave Man ?

A. I think he did.

Lieutenant Christopher James Bell of the Royal Navy lately Commander of the Murray Gun Boat called in and sworn.

The Court asked.

Q. What Gun Boat did you command during the Action ?

A. The Murray.

Q. Relate the Conduct of the Gun Boats during the Action ?

A. I saw the Beresford, M^{r} Robertson Commander, the

Popham, M^r^ Allen, the Murray, myself, and a fourth whose name I do not know in close Action, the rest but one were to Leeward namely, the Provost, Lieutenant Ashmore, Royal Marines, the Simcoe, M^r^ Howton, Midshipman, the Beckwith, Lieutenant Caldwell, Royal Marines, the Brock M^r^ Dickman, Midshipman, and the Blucher, M^r^ Pym, and Wellington M^r^ Wymes, one of those was in close Action, but I cannot tell which the other of the two was to Leeward. The Yeo, Lieutenant Raynham, Commodore of the Gun Boats pulled out, and retired from the Action altogether after a few minutes, and I found him on board the Iceacle, a Tender appointed to receive the wounded when I was carried on board, he was not wounded, I was twice wounded, the first time just after the Action commenced a grape shot in the foot I did not then quit, until I received a second wound, which took my right Leg compleatly off, when I was taken out of the Boat, I ordered the Coxswain again to pull in, I asked Lieutenant Raynham, why he was not in, he told me the touch-hole of his long Gun was blocked up, I told him I thought he might have used his thirty two Pound Carronade, which I considered more effectual at close Quarters. The Captain of Militia (Raumzie) and a number of his Men (Canadians) twenty three of whom I had in the Boat, the major part with the Captain lay down in the bottom, with the exception of Lieutenant Olliver of the Canadian Militia. Lieutenant Raynham did hoist the Signal, in first going in for boarding, but he did not shew the Example, and on the contrary went out as before stated.

Q. Could the Gun Boats (that you have mentioned as being to Leeward) with proper exertion have been brought into close Action as was the Case with your Boat ?

A. I think they could.

Q. Where are the Commanding Officers of these Boats ?

A. I believe they are left in Canada, I have heard that

Lieutenant Raynham ran away. Mr Allen who did his Duty is also in Canada.

Q. Did all the Gun Boats start together.

A. Yes but they were in a very disorderly manner, Mr Robertson was the next Boat to me, and continued with me all the Action, I did not pull out after my second Wound for some time, until Mr Robertson advised me to do so, there ought to have been another Boat between me and Mr Robertson, (the Beckwith Lieutenant Caldwell Royal Marines) there ought to have been one to the right of me between me and the Confiance, (the Simcoe Mr Howton Commander) manned with the thirty ninth, I do not recollect the exact Stations of the other Boats.

Q. State to the Court what you observed of the Conduct of the Finch on the Day of Action ?

A. I saw her going in, did not take any particular notice of her afterwards.

Q. State the Conduct of the Chubb ?

A. I recollect noticing her between the Confiance and Saratoga with the peak of her Mainsail down that is all the notice I took of her.

Q. What Shot wounded you ?

A. The American Schooner, first by a Grape, second by a round Shot which took a piece out of the Boat.

Lieutenant Hicks asked.

Q. How far do you suppose our Gun Boats were off from the Finch when she commenced Action with the American Schooner and Sloop ?

A. I do not positively know as I did not take any notice of her but in going in before the Action commenced she was then in Advance.

Lieutenant Robertson asked.

Q. If all the Gun Boats had done their Duty, could they in your Opinion have accomplished what they were ordered to do by Captain Downie ?

A. I think they could have boarded the American Schooner Teconderago before she had fired the third Broadside, which they were ordered to do.

The Court asked.

Q. Where were the Enemy's Gun Boats at that time ?

A. They were in shore of their Squadron except one which I fired at, she came round the Schooners Bow, and I heard since she was the only American Gun Boat that was struck having two Men killed in her the American Brig dropt down some time before I went out.

Captain Pring asked.

Q. What Class of People were our Gun Boats manned with, and of what Nations were they composed.

A. With British Seaman Marines and Canadian Militia ?

Q. Were the principal part of those Crews Canadians ?

A. I should think about half, I had twenty three Canadians and ten English, the Popham had mostly Canadians.

Q. Do you consider Canadians as effective in naval Engagements as British Seamen or Marines ?

A. By no means they lay down.

M^{r} James Robertson, late Commander of the Marshall Beresford Gun Boat called in and sworn.

The Court asked.

Q. How long did you join the Beresford before the Action ?

A. Two Days.

Q. State the Conduct of the Gun Boats on the Day of Action ?

A. The Murray Lieutenant Bell the Popham M^{r} Allen the Marshall Beresford, myself were in close Action, there was a fourth whose name I do not know, as I only joined the Boats two Days before the Action and had been in the Confiance only two Days before that. The Sir James Yeo, Lieutenant Raynham Commander who was the Commodore of

the Gun Boats advanced in a Line of Battle with the Beresford, Popham and Murray to about the distance of six hundred Yards from the Enemy's Schooner, and made the Signal to board, instantly hauled it down and pulled out of the Action, previous to this he ordered me to lower my Sail, and commence Action. The rest of the Boats (with the exception of one I am not certain of the Boats name which was almost between the Enemy's Schooner and Sloop firing at the Sloop) were dropping to Leeward in great confusion towards Crab Island, almost out of Gun Shot some firing. There was another Boat I observed the Drummond Lieutenant Duell, Commander a good ways out on my Lee Quarter towards Crabb Island, I observed Lieutenant Duell himself either spunging or loading his Gun and a very few Men about the Gun.

Q. Was the Drummond within Gun Shot at that time ?

A. She had a long eighteen Pounder, she was within range I think of point blank Shot of the Enemy with a long Gun, but not of Grape the Schooners Grape was going over me at that time, and to the best of my knowledge she was about two hundred Yards outside of me, he was never nearer than that to my knowledge, and as he fired his Gun he appeared to drop out of Action, he was principally manned with Canadians, and they appeared to me to be slack in pulling, I think it was either the Blucher or the Wellington that was firing at the Sloop, but I cannot tell which M^{r} Pym who commanded the Blucher was slightly wounded in the Arm with a Grape Shot, and knocked down with the flat of a Grape Shot that hit him on the Shoulder, as he told me, I saw the Wound in the Arm There was a Militia Man, a Canadian killed in the Blucher by a Grape Shot as M^{r} Pym told me.

Q. What prevented the other Gun Boats from getting into Close Action as well as yourself ?

A. They did not appear to me to make any exertions to get into Action.

Q. Do you mean the Men or the Officers ?

A. I cannot say.

Q. Do you know if any of the Men of the Wellington were killed ?

A. I believe there was one but I cannot tell.

Q. State the Conduct of the Finch in the Day of Action ?

A. As to the Conduct of the Finch I did not particularly observe till I saw her aground and several of our Gun Boats about her, I know nothing further of the Conduct of the Finch.

Q. State the Conduct of the Chubb ?

A. I saw the Chubb drop slowly along the line of fire between the Saratoga and Confiance, apparently a compleat Wreck and quite unmanageable to the best of my Opinion she was.

Q. Did you observe the Finch at any time in close Action ?

A. At one time I should imagine she was within the range of Grape from the Schooner long Guns, after that I did not take notice of her until I saw her aground.

Q. Do you know what Vessel in the Enemy's Line the Finch was to attack ?

A. Only from hearsay, she was to support the Gun Boats in boarding the Ticonderago—and afterwards engage the Prebble the Leeward most of the Enemy's Line.

Q. Did she appear to do her utmost to close the Schooner ?

A. I think she might have run alongside the Schooner if she had not been unmanageable which I do not know whether she was or not, I myself and the rest of the Boats that came into close Action advanced to within five hundred or six hundred Yards of the Schooners Beam with a free Wind.

Q. Can you tell how she came on shore ?

A. I saw her heading towards Crab Island but do not know how she got aground.

Q. Had she all her Sails set in the act of Wearing ?

A. I cannot tell, she had her Masts standing when she

was aground, and I believe the peak of her Mainsail down and head sails.

Q. Were you close to the Finch in going down into Action ?

A. I passed going into Action about half a Mile on her Starboard Beam.

Q. Did she appear then to be doing her utmost to get into Action ?

A. Had I been in his place, I would have kept more to windward, I would not have edged so much away.

Q. Did you observe the Schooner or Sloop strike to the Finch ?

A. No, but I knew the Sloop either slipt or cut her Cable, and made sail in Shore, between the Enemy's Line and her own Works, but I did not observe whether she had her Colours down or not, I cannot speak positive.

Q. Was the Finch ever in a Situation to oblige either of those Vessels to strike, or cut her Cable ?

A. From my short experience in the Service I do not think that the Shot from her Carronades could do any execution, on board either the Enemys Sloop or Schooner.

Q. To what do you attribute the Sloops being obliged to quit her Anchorage

A. I think from the well directed fire from the Gun Boat between the Enemy's Schooner and Sloop, made her quit her Station.

Lieutenant Hicks asked.

Q. How long was the Finch in Action before the Gun Boats ?

A. I do not think she was any time in Action before some of the Gun Boats, perhaps some stray Shot might have reached her, but she could do no execution, I speak now to the best of my recollection and judgment but not positively.

The Court asked.

Q. Was the Finch at any one time in close Action ?

A. I say she was at one time within reach of Grape from

the Schooners long Guns, it was about half an hour afterwards, I saw her aground to the best of my recollection.

Captain Daniel Pring sworn.

The Court asked.

Q. State to the Court what you know of the Conduct of the Finch on the Day of Action ?

A. I observed the Finch standing into Action ahead of the Gun Boats in her station, according to Captain Downies Orders, I did not observe her at any time during the Action to be in close Engagement with the Enemy, as I was occupied in attending to the Conduct of my own Brig, and anxiously looking in shore to observe the military Movements, and expecting the promised Co-operation of the Land Forces, I observed her manœuvring during one period of the Action, I think about the middle, attempting to stay and in the act of wearing I believe within Gun Shot of the Enemy, (point blank round shot) and towards the close of the Engagement on shore on the edge of the Reef of Crab Island which runs a long way off.

Q. Was it known to the Squadron ?

A. I think it could not be known in the Squadron, Sir George Provost gave me a Chart of the Lake which was the only one I knew of being in the Squadron.

Q. What did you observe of the Conduct of the Chubb ?

A. The Chubb followed the Linnet in standing into Action, and drifted between the Confiance and Saratoga with her Colours down, very shortly after the commencement, I did not observe her fire more than one broadside, I cannot say that she did not Anchor, and therefore described her Conduct in Action from Lieutenant M^{c}Ghie's report to me, I should conceive when I observed her with her Colours down, she was driving so close to the Enemy's largest Ship, and was so low in the Water compared to her, that, if the Crew had remained on Deck they must have been picked off by Musquetry.

Q. Will you state the Conduct of the Gun Boats that were in Action ?

A. I observed some of the Gun-Boats four or five much closer to the Enemy than the rest, whom I conceived kept aloof from the Engagement.

Q. Can you name them ?

A. I cannot, the Gun Boats were all painted and rigged alike and therefore it was impossible to distinguish them.

Q. From being second Officer in Command of the Squadron, in the confidence of the late Captain Downie, and in frequent communication with him prior to the Action do you know that he would not have attacked the Enemy at their Anchorage without the confident expectation of Co-operation and Assistance from the British Troops on shore ?

A. I do know from him that he would not. From having commanded on Lake Champlain myself upwards of twelve months I thought it my Duty when I knew Captain Downies Intention, to state to him that the Enemy's naval Force were well manned, and efficient in every respect, to which he observed when the Batteries are stormed and taken possessio of by the British Land Forces which the Commander of the Land Forces has promised to do at the moment the naval Action commences the Enemy will then at all events be obliged to quit their position whereby we shall obtain decided Advantage over them during their Confusion, I would otherwise (he said) of course prefer fighting them on the Lake, and would wait until our Force is in an efficient state but I fear they would if I waited take shelter up the Lake, and not meet me on equal Terms.

Q. To what cause do you attribute the failure of the Engagement ?

A. To the want of the promised Co-operation of the Land Forces, I conceive that we should otherwise have been successful in our Attack.

Q. Did you conceive it to have been impracticable to

have made an impression on the Enemy in the position you found them while they had possession of the Batteries ?

A. I did, and I do not conceive that any Officer would have attacked them in such position—under such circumstances, without the Co-operation.

Q. Do you ascribe any part of the Failure to the Loss of the Assistance of the Finch and Chubb as well as to the Conduct of those Gun Boats that left their Station ?

A. A part certainly we should have done better with their Assistance.

Lieutenant Hicks asked.

Q. What is your Opinion of me as an Officer ?

A. As long as you have been under my Command courageous, zealous, and attentive.

Q. Have you seen my Conduct as an Officer in Action on any former occasion ?

A. Yes, under my immediate Command, at the taking of Genesee on Lake Ontario, at the first Capture of Platsburg with a Division of Troops under Colonel Murray, and at the attack at La Cole Mill on Lake Champlain, it was then as I have before stated courageous zealous and attentive, and as I stated in my Letter of the twelfth I conceived you to be an Officer of good Ability.

Q. What do you conceive of my Conduct as an Officer in general ?

A. Unexceptionally good.

Lieutenant James Robertson, late first Lieutenant of His Majesty's late Ship, Confiance, called in and sworn.

The Court asked.

Q. State what you know of the Conduct of the Finch ?

A. When the Signal was made for the Squadron to bear up and sail large, before we came round Cumberland Head, I think the Finch with the rest of the Squadron were laying too, to windward of the Confiance, I observed the Finch

when the Confiance rounded Cumberland Head, to be on our Lee Quarter, the nearest time I saw her to the Enemy was I suppose about three quarters of a Mile, I did not observe her from that time until she grounded on a reef off Crab Island.

Q. Have you reason to know that every Exertion was made by the Finch, to get into close Action ?

A. I cannot say.

Q. Did she take up the Station assigned to her by the Commodore ?

A. I did not observe that she did.

Q. Were there any orders for the Finch to anchor in any particular Position ?

A. I do not know of any Orders to anchor, she was ordered to support the Gun Boats in attacking the Enemy's Schooner or Sloop.

Q. At the time you state she was three quarters of a mile from the Enemy, was she then standing towards them with all Sail set ?

A. Her Head was some points to the Southward of the Object she was ordered to engage, and I believe her Mainsail and Jib were set.

Q. Do you mean by that she was steering free ?

A. Yes, as we had the Wind in the Confiance, but it might be baffling where she was.

Q. Did you see her commence Action ?

A. I did not.

Q. Had an Order been given for all the Vessels to be prepared with Springs for anchoring ?

A. Captain Downie gave orders to that effect in my presence.

Q. Can you account for her not having anchored ?

A. No, I cannot.

Q. Was the general apparent Conduct of the Finch, becoming a British Man of War of her Description in the face of an Enemy ?

A. So far as I did observe I think it was not, but I cannot judge of what circumstances might have taken place on board her to prevent her taking her allotted Station.

Q. Did she go down with that Sail the other Vessels did, and use that exertion that was allotted to her ?

A. I did not observe any but her fore and aft Sails set she might not have any more.

Q. Do you know if the Draft Answers annexed to the Letters of Lieutenant General Sir George Provost of the 7th 8th and 9th are of the Handwriting of the late Captain Downie ?

A. I do, I found them in his Desk after he was killed.

Q. Do you know if the Letters or Answers were sent to Sir George Provost ?

A. I cannot say, but several Officers came officially from Sir George Provost during our advance to Platsburg.

Q. As you was first Lieutenant of the Confiance, and consequently in frequent conversation with the late Captain Downie prior to the Action do you positively know that he would not have attacked the Enemy at their Anchorage, without the confident expectation of Co-operation and Assistance from the British Troops on shore ?

A. I never heard him say so.

Q. To what do you attribute the failure of the attack of the Enemy's Squadron ?

A. Principally to the want of Co-operation on the part of the Land Forces, and to some of our own, not having got into close Action.

Q. Did you hear Captain Downie say that the Army were to storm the Batteries when the British Squadron attacked the Fleet ?

A. He said so frequently to me in private conversation, and he announced it publicly before the Officers and Ships Company before going into Action in hauling round Cumberland Head, when the Crew cheered.

Q. State the period that elapsed from the time of your making the Signal or scaling your Guns until you were in Action ?

A. I think about two hours at least.

Q. How long was it after the Squadron came in sight of Platsburg or the British Army before you came into Action ?

A. I think we might have been observed, that is, our mast heads, by the Army when within a League of Cumberland Point, but we could not see the Army off the Deck until we rounded Cumberland Head, I suppose it was about an hour and a half from the time they might have seen our mast heads until we rounded Cumberland Point and after that it was not more than ten minutes when they commenced firing on the Confiance, the Shot fell short at first.

Q. How long was it after you struck your colours, that you were taken possession of ?

A. I was removed out of the Confiance about half an hour after we struck, but the Enemy did not send Men on board to take possession for an hour afterwards, and the Prisoners were not removed until Sunset.

Q. Have you confident reason to believe that you would have met with Success had you received the expected Co-operation from the Land Forces ?

A. I have.

Lieutenant Hicks asked.

Q. Had you sufficient time when in Action to observe the minute Operations of the Finch ?

A. Not regularly, I did not say that I did.

Captain Pring, called again.

The Court asked.

Q. Was you present when the Letter of the tenth of September One thousand eight hundred and fourteen from Lieutenant General Sir George Provost to Captain Downie was received by him ?

A. I was and it was then determined between Captain

Downie, and the Officer who brought it (Colonel Coore) that the Signal by which the Land Forces would be apprized of the approach of our Squadron in order that the Army might Co-operate was to be the scaling of the Confiances Guns, he observed to Colonel Coore with some warmth "the Letter does not require an Answer, and I have nothing further to state to the Commander of the Forces than you can tell him" and afterwards observed to me I will not write him any more Letters, this Letter (meaning the Letter of the 10th) does not deserve an Answer but I will convince him that the naval Force will not be backward in their share of the Attack.

Thomas Eyre, a Midshipman late of His Majesty's late Cutter, Finch, called in and sworn.

The Court asked.

Q. State the Conduct of the Finch from her leaving Cumberland Head, to her getting on shore near Crabb Island ?

A. At nine she went round Cumberland Head, about 9°30″ she was abreast of the Prebble, I am not positive to the time, about half a Mile distance she brought her Broadside to bear and engaged her, In about forty fifty or sixty minutes the Prebble ceased firing and stood with her Head in Shore, whether her Colours were up or down I cannot say, we were then I suppose a Mile and a Quarter from her and drifted to Leeward, and in about an hour more we took the Ground on Crab Island, two field Pieces opened their fire upon us from Crab Island but we cleared them with Grape and Canister Shot, we used every exertion to get her off threw four Carronades overboard, she had then settled having two or three Feet water above the lower Deck.

Q. Could you have got nearer to the Prebble ?

A. Yes by keeping to the Wind we could.

Q. Why did you not keep to the Wind ?

A. There is no particular reason that I know of unless the Commander wished to engage at Grape distance.

Q. Which Side did you fire first ?

A. Starboard Side.

Q. Why did you not anchor alongside of her ?

A. We may have anchored, the Commander did not order the Anchor to be let go.

Q. If you had attacked her with your Larboard Side would not you have been nearer to her ?

A. No, if she had been on the Larboard Tack the Cutter would have been standing out of the Bay, we had the Wind quarterly when we brought our Broadside on her.

Q. Were the Enemy's Squadron at an Anchor, head to wind ?

A. Three of them were.

Q. How far was the Schooner ahead of the Prebble ?

A. I am not certain, I do not know, I think a quarter of a Mile but not in a line, I think in a South East Direction.

Q. Do you know what Vessel in the Enemy's Line, the Finch was ordered to attack ?

A. I thought she was to assist the Gun Boats in carrying the Schooner.

Q. What reason had you to think so ?

A. M^{r} Hicks on coming on board told me it was Captain Downies Orders.

Q. Was the Finch ever within Pistol Shot of the Schooner or Sloop ?

A. No, never.

Q. Did the Schooner fire at you ?

A. Yes, I think she did my reason for thinking so is, that the Sloop could never give us so many Shots.

Q. What did you do after the Sloop slipt her Cable ?

A. Some fire was kept upon the Schooner owing to our being so weakly manned, and as we had hands employed in repairing the standing and running rigging.

Q. Were you firing at the Schooner and Field Pieces at the time ?

A. No, never.

Q. Was the Finch's Helm put to starboard at the distance you speak of (half a Mile) for the purpose of bringing her Broadside to bear on the Enemy when she could have closed and boarded the Prebble by keeping her Wind ?

A. Yes, I think it was, I did not see it put up, but I have not the least doubt it was.

Q. Was you on Deck during the whole time of the Action ?

A. From half an hour previous to the commencement, until an hour after she was surrendered.

Q. Had you anchored with Springs at the time the Sloop slipt her Cable, could you have continued the Action with the Schooner, with better effect, than by remaining drifting away ?

A. Yes but our Carronades would have been of no use at that distance, our long sixes might have been.

Q. Had you any Sweeps ?

A. Yes.

Q. Were they made use of ?

A. I really do not recollect their being made use of. I am quite uncertain.

Q. Was the Finch's Head ever towards the Enemy after the Sloop slipt or cut her Cable ?

A. It was in an attempt to stay her after getting the Jib Stay set up.

Q. How far were you then from the Enemy ?

A. I think a Mile and a half from the Schooner.

Q. Had you much Way through the Water while your Starboard Broadside was bearing on the Schooner and the Wind upon your Quarter ?

A. She had for a few Minutes but the Gaft coming down, and the Jib Stay shot away slackened her Way.

Q. What means were used to keep the Finch in her position abreast of the Enemy's Squadron ?

A. She drove right down upon the Island, the Winds were

light and baffling, the Anchor ought to have been let go, every Exertion was made to get sail upon the Sloop.

Q. Had the Anchor been let go in time could the Vessel have run on Shore ?

A. Not unless the Cable had been shot away, and then we had another to let go;

Q. From the Wind being light as you state, had the Sweeps been used would they not have been effectual in bringing the Finch again into her Station ?

A. If there had been Sweeps sufficient for every port, I think it would.

Q. How long have you been at Sea ?

A. Ten Years.

Q. From the experience you must have had, do you think any blame is to be attached to your Commander or other Person for the Vessel having got on shore on the reef at Crab Island ?

A. Only not anchoring, I think he ought to have anchored.

Q. What depth of Water was there ?

A. I do not know, there was a Pilot on board.

Q. Were you in Soundings ?

A. Yes.

Q. Did you hear the Pilot say there was room to wear ?

A. I did.

Lieutenant Hicks asked.

Q. Did you observe the Pilots Conduct during the Action ?

A. I did not.

Q. What was my Conduct during the Action ?

A. That of a brave and zealous Officer

Q. Was every exertion tried after the Prebble had slipt repeatedly to make her stay, and endeavour to get my other Broadside round upon the Schooner but without any effect she being so very much disabled ?

A. Every exertion was made to get her Head round with her Canvas but in vain.

Q. Was there a Quarrel between you and me when in Prison ?

A. There was.

The Court adjourned until Monday Morning nine o'Clock

At nine o'Clock A.M. Twenty first of August 1815. The Court met according to Adjournment.

The Judge Advocate produced a Letter he had received from the Admiralty inclosing an original Letter from Sir James Lucas Yeo to the Secretary of the Admiralty dated 24th September 1814 which were read as follows.

" Admiralty Office "
" 20th Augst 1815 "

" Sir

" Captain Sir James Lucas Yeo having represented to " my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that the Court " require the production of his original Letter dated on board " the Saint Lawrence Kingston 24th September 1814, I am " commanded by their Lordships to transmit to you herewith " the said Letter, which you will please to return to me when " the Court Martial shall have terminated.

" I am " " Sir "
" Your very humble Servant "
" John Barrow "

Mr Moses Greetham Jr
" Deputy Judge Advocate "

" H.M.S. Saint Lawrence
" Kingston 24th September 1814 "

" Sir "

" I have the honor to transmit for the information of " their Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, two Copies " of Letters from Captain Pring and Lieutenant Robertson " late Commander, and Commanding Officer of His Majesty's " late ship, Confiance, and Brig Linnet.

" It appears to me, and I have good reason to believe " that Captain Downie was urged, and his ship hurried into " Action before she was in a fit state to meet the Enemy."

" I am also of Opinion that there was not the least " necessity for our Squadron giving the Enemy such decided " Advantages, by going into their Bay to engage them, even " had they been successful, it could not in the least have " assisted the Troops in storming the Batteries, Whereas " had our Troops taken their Batteries first, it would have " obliged the Enemy's Squadron to quit the Bay, and given " ours a fair chance.

" I have the honor to be " " Sir "
" Your most obedient humble Servant "
" James Lucas Yeo "
" Commodore and Commander in Chief "

" To J W Croker Esq^re
" &^c &^c &^c."

Captain Pring read a Paper Writing, which is hereto annexed.

Lieutenant Hicks, late Commander of the Finch, produced a Paper Writing, which was read to the Court, and is hereto annexed.

Captain Pring delivered the official Report from Lieutenant William Hicks to him delivered on the twelfth of September 1814 which was read, and is hereto annexed.

Richard Woodriff, a Seaman late belonging to His Majestys late Cutter, Finch called in and sworn.

Lieutenant Hicks asked.

Q. Did I sail in, so as to attack the Enemy's Sloop and Schooner in the Action at the same time, and what distance was I from both ?

A. We were within half Gun Shot of the Schooner when she fired, then we opened our fire on the Schooner and kept

on so, and stood on for the Sloop, then we attacked the Sloop, I did not take any farther notice of any thing else that was transacted at that present time being busy at my Gun.

Q. Had I in that Situation good Broadsides both at the Sloop and Schooner ?

A. We got our Starboard Broadside on the Schooner, and then in standing in, we got the Starboard Guns to bear on the Sloop we engaged her.

Q. Was I within Grape Shot, and how many of my Men were wounded ?

A. We were within Grape, to the best of my knowledge, three or four were wounded. I am not sure which

Q. Did the Sloop strike to me ?

A. Yes, she did.

Q. How long was it before the Sloop struck, and at what distance was I from her when she did strike ?

A. To the best of my knowledge she was within pistol Shot about three Quarters of an hour.

Q. Did the Sloop then run in under her Batteries ?

A. She run in under the Batteries on Shore.

Q. Did you then hear me ask the Pilot whether we could wear, and what did he say ?

A. I did not, I saw them discoursing, but did not hear what they said.

Q. At what time was this ?

A. I cannot say.

Q. After we got on the reef in endeavouring to wear did I continue firing at the Schooner ?

A. I cannot recollect.

Q. Did we when we were on the reef receive a Shot through us from the Schooner ?

A. I cannot say.

Q. Did I silence the Batteries on Crab Island ?

A. Yes.

Q. What did you observe of my personal Courage, Coolness, and Bravery, during the Action ?

A. I observed him behave as well as any officer could do, with Courage Coolness and Bravery, he was walking and directing the Men, and telling them not to fire any Shot in vain.

Q. Did I frequently cheer my Crew during the whole Action ?

A. Yes.

Q. Did you observe me reprimand the Pilot during the Action ?

A. Yes, he told the Pilot (Simson) that he was of no use to him.

Q. What was the Pilots Conduct during the Action ?

A. I saw him dodging once or twice when the Shot came over us.

Q. Did you observe during the Action that by Accident our Colors were half down, and my threatening to blow a black Mans Brains out, who I thought was hauling them down.

A. I recollect the Colours being half down which were hoisted again, but I do not recollect any thing as to the black Man

The Court asked.

Q. Did the Ships Company say anything to Lieutenant Finch after the Action ?

A. We all went aft, and said we were sorry we were obligated to strike that is all I recollect.

Lieutenant Hicks asked.

Q. Did the Men say they would be happy to serve with me in future ?

A. I said I would myself but I do not recollect what other people said.

Q. Had the Confiance and Linnet struck their Colours before the Finch ?

A. Yes they had, and the Chubb also the Chubb was the first the Linnet the last.

Q. Were the Gun Boats leaving the Bay before ?

A. I did not see any Gun Boats except those who came alongside us to assist us, not after the Action begun.

Q. From the Vessel being on the reef with much Water in the Hold could more have been done to get her afloat ?

A. No.

The Court asked.

Q. At the time the Colours were ordered to be struck, was the Finch within Shot of the Enemy ?

A. I cannot rightly tell, whether she was or not.

Q. Were any Shots fired from the Island after the Batteries were silenced, or from the Enemy's Vessels at the time the Colours were struck ?

A. I do not recollect any firing at that time.

Q. Were the English Gun Boats alongside of the Finch when you struck ?

A. They went away before we struck.

Q. Were they alongside you after you were aground ?

A. Yes, they were.

Q. How many of them ?

A. Three or four, the Beckwith and the Brock were two and the Barge whose name I do not know.

Q. What became of the Gun Boats ?

A. I saw them standing out of the Bay from us.

Q. Had the Confiance, Linnet, and Chubb, struck before the Gun Boats shoved off from you ?

A. To the best of my knowledge they had.

Q. When the Gun Boats left the Finch was there any hopes of getting her off ?

A. No.

Q. Were any of those Gun Boats taken afterwards to your knowledge ?

A. Not to my knowledge, they were not.

Q. Did any of the Crew of the Finch go away in them ?

A. No, they did not.

Q. Did you hear any Orders given for the Gun Boats to leave you by any Person ?

A. I do not recollect any such Order given.

Q. Could the Crew of the Finch have been prevented being made Prisoners, if the Gun Boats had remained with you ?

A. I cannot say.

Q. Could the Gun Boats have taken all your Crew away ?

A. I cannot tell whether they could or not.

Q. How long was it after the Finch struck, that she was taken possession of by the Enemy ?

A. I do not know the exact time to the best of my knowledge we were boarded in about a Quarter of an Hour, by a Boat of the Enemy

Lieutenant Hicks asked.

Q. When the Gun Boats were leaving me, was I not making exertions to get off the Finch, and in hopes of getting her off ?

A. I do not recollect any hopes of getting her off when the Gun Boats left us.

John Clair, the Carpenters Mate, late of His Majestys late Cutter, Finch, called in and sworn.

Lieutenant Hicks asked.

Q. Did I sail in so as to attack the Enemy's Sloop and Schooner in the Action at the same time, and what distance was I from both ?

A. I cannot tell, I was quartered below.

Q. What Damage had she sustained in the Action ?

A. Five Shot close to the Waters edge a bilge Plank on the Starboard Side, about five Feet of it shattered, that is all below. The Bowsprit and the Mast wounded badly, and the main boom wounded.

Q. Were there any Shot under Water ?

A. I believe there was from the Quantity of Water, she made nearly three Feet, and a half. I could hear it rush in it was above the Deck before we left her.

Q. Had she that Water in before she touched the Ground or not until afterwards ?

A. I think she had about three Feet Water in her, when she touched the Ground.

Q. What Water did she draw ?

A. Five Feet and a half forward, and six Feet and a half abaft as near as I could guess.

Lieutenant Hicks asked.

Q. Do you know there were shots all through her ?

A. Yes, right through and through.

The Court asked.

Q. Did you receive that shot while on shore ?

A. I do not recollect whether it was from the Enemy's Vessels or the shore.

Q. Do you know if the Finch was ever within Pistol Shot of the Enemy ?

A. I do not know.

Q. Was the Damage the Finch received so much, as to render all exertion fruitless, in attempting to get her off. Was her Damage so great that she could not have been got off ?

A. If we had gained the Day with the Assistance of the Gun Boats we might have got her off.

Q. Circumstanced as she was could you have got her off ?

A. I think not.

Q. Did the Ships Company after she struck go aft, and say anything and what to Lieutenant Hicks ?

A. I heard them say to him, that he had done all that lay in his Power as far as they could see.

Q. What Boats had the Finch and would any of them swim when she grounded ?

A. She had a Canoe, but I do not know whether she was in Order or not when she grounded.

Q. What Size was the Canoe, and how many could she stow ?

A. Six or eight Men were as many as could go with her in safety.

Q. How long after you struck was she taken possession of ?

A. About half an hour I believe.

Q. Did any Gun Boats come to your Assistance ?

A. I was called up once, and I saw a Gun Boat on the Quarter.

Q. Did she leave you before you struck ?

A. Yes.

Q. At the time that Gun Boat left you was there any hopes of your getting off ?

A. No, I saw no more hopes then, than at any other time.

Q. Was there any Anchor laid out by the Gun Boat ?

A. I do not know.

Q. Could the Crew of the Finch have been taken away by the Gun Boat ?

A. I do not know, but she was large enough.

James Kettle, a Seaman belonging to His Majesty's late Cutter Finch, Called in and sworn.

Lieutenant Hicks asked.

Q. Did I sail in so as to attack the Enemy's Sloop and Schooner in the Action at the same time, and at what distance was I from both ?

A. He was about a half Gun Shot from both, the Sloop furthest in shore from us.

Q. Had I in that situation good Broadsides both at the Sloop and Schooner ?

A. First we had a Broadside at the Schooner, and then stood on for the Sloop, and engaged the Sloop for some considerable time.

Q. Was I within range of Grape Shot, and how many of my Men were wounded ?

A. Yes, two were wounded severely.

Q. Did the Sloop strike to me ?

A. Yes.

Q. How long was it before the Sloop struck, and what distance was I from her, when she did strike ?

A. When she struck she was about Pistol Shot to the best of my knowledge.

Q. Did the Sloop then run in under the Batteries ?

A. Yes.

Q. Did you then hear me ask the Pilot whether we could wear, and what did he say ?

A. I did not hear him.

Q. After we got on the reef in endeavouring to wear, did I continue firing at the Schooner ?

A. Yes, not all the Guns, as many as we could bring to bear.

Q. Did we when we were on the reef receive a Shot through us from the Schooner ?

A. I do not know.

Q. Did I silence the Batteries on Crab Island ?

A. Yes.

Q. What did you observe of my personal Courage, Coolness and Bravery during the Action ?

A. Our Commander went fore and aft the Deck at different times, and said never mind my Men take it cool, dont flustrate yourselves, take a good aim, and not fire a Shot in waste.

Q. Did I frequently cheer my Crew during the whole Action ?

A. Yes, at different times.

Q. Did you observe me reprimand the Pilot during the Action ?

A. No.

Q. Did the crew come aft to me after we struck, and what did they say ?

A. He called us all aft, to know if we could do any more in trying to get her off, the people said we could not get her off.

Q. After all the Gun Boats had left me was I making every exertion to get the Finch off ?

A. Everything that ever could be done.

Q. Was not the Finch within fire of the Enemy's Schooner or Sloop when aground on the reef ?

A. Yes, they fired several Shot after she was aground, they came over us.

The Court asked.

Q. Had you any Men quartered at small Arms ?

A. We had six Marines had their small Arms up ready, but we did not use them we were at big Guns.

Q. Did the Enemy fire any Musquet at you when you was within Pistol Shot ?

A. No, not to my knowledge.

Q. Was the Enemy firing on the Finch at the time the Colours were struck and after the Guns on the Island were silenced ?

A. No, not to my knowledge.

Q. Did any Gun Boats come to your Assistance ?

A. I saw one Gun Boat on the Quarter which I took notice of.

Q. Were the Enemy firing at you when you was in that situation ?

A. Not at us, I saw them firing at the Gun Boats as they were going away.

Q. You said the Colours of the Sloop were struck to you do you know that positively, or whether they were not shot away ?

A. I cannot say, I never saw them up after they were down.

Q. What in your Opinion could have occasioned the Colours of the Finch to be struck, if no Enemy was firing on her at the time ?

A. We never struck, until all the rest of the Squadron had struck, and the Action was over, the Enemy came on board of us.

Sir James Lucas Yeo called.

Lieutenant Hicks asked.

Q. Have the Goodness to state what you know of my character ?

A. M^{r} Hicks went out with me as Midshipman to the Lakes, and was with Captains Mulcaster and Pring at the Capture of Genesee and Great Sodas, and from their representation of his good Conduct, I promoted him immediately to the rank of Lieutenant and sent him with Captain Pring to Lake Champlain.

Captain Pring asked.

Q. After the Admiralty had sent you instructions for me to return to the Halifax Station, did you conceive it absolutely necessary to retain my Services and select me as the Officer to frame the Dock Yard and Naval Establishments, to cause a Force to be created, and take the Command on Lake Champlain ?

A. I found Captain Pring on the Lake on my arrival sent there with others by Admiral Sir John Warren. I received discretionary Orders from the Admiralty as alluded to, to detain him there for the good of the Service, and having observed Captain Prings Activity and Zeal on Lake Ontario, I sent him to command on Lake Champlain where he created all the Force until the Confiance was built, when I judged it expedient to send the second in Command on the Lakes to take that station, it being too great a Command for an Officer of Captain Prings rank.

Q. From your knowledge of my Services whilst Commanding on Lake Champlain which was to within a few Weeks of the Action and also when Captain of your pendent

Ships, the Royal George and Wolff what is your Opinion of me as a Officer ?

A. It was from my high Opinion of him, that I sent him to Command on Lake Champlain.

Captain Dilkes said that he knew a great deal of Lieutenant Robertson, he was appointed to the Hazard just as he left her, had frequent Opportunities of hearing him highly spoken of he knew him to be left in the Command of the Hazard after his Captain was killed, for which Command he had an order from Vice Admiral Sir Alexander Cochrane, and he had always himself formed the highest Opinion of him, an Enemy's Squadron was expected in the Country.

Lieutenant Robertson asked Sir James Yeo.

Q. During the short time I served on Lake Ontario, did I perform any Services, and what were they ?

A. On Lieutenant Robertsons Arrival I took him into my own Ship and selected him to go frequently with Boats on the Enemy's Coast, near Sackets Harbour to watch the Enemys Fleet on sailing, and cut off Supplies going to it, he on one occasion captured two Vessels close to them, and in the most gallant manner ran them through their Fleet, and brought them into Kingston. I then judged from his Abilities being related to and in the Confidence of Captain Downie, the best Officer to appoint as his first Lieutenant on Lake Champlain, as I thought it was more likely he would obtain promotion there, than as one of the junior Lieutenants of my Ship.

Q. Did you know anything of me previous to my arrival on Lake Ontario ?

A. Only from the very high Character he bore from Captain Downie, Captain Hickey, Captain Tucker, and others, and he brought a Letter from Admiral Graham Moore recommending him in the strongest manner to me.

Lieutenant Bell asked Captain Pring.

Q. What was your Opinion of my conduct during the time I served under your Command on Lake Champlain ?

A. From the high Opinion I had of your Zeal and Ability, I placed you in the Command of the Canada Cutter, and I have always noticed your Conduct as unexceptionally good.

Lieutenant Bell asked Lieutenant Robertson

Q. What was my Conduct during the time I continued alongside your Boat in the Action of the eleventh of September ?

A. That of a brave and gallant Officer.

M^r^ Robertson stated, that he had lost his Certificates and all his effects in the late Action on Lake Champlain.

Captain John Quilliam of His Majesty's Ship Crescent called in and sworn.

M^r^ Robinson [*sic*] asked.

Q. At the time I sailed with you what was your Opinion of me as an Officer ?

A. I had the very best Opinion of M^r^ Robertson as an Officer, a very trusty young Man, and very few equal to him in his situation as a Midshipman, he left the Crescent to join his Friends on the Lakes, being a more active Situation he volunteered to go, which I thought was a very laudable thing.

Captain Pring produced a Copy of the official Report attested of Lieutenant James M^c^Ghie, dated 12^th^ of September 1814 which was read, and is hereto annexed.

The Court was cleared, and agreed, That the Capture of His Majesty's said late Ship Confiance, the Brig Linnet, and the remainder of the said Squadron, by the said American Squadron, was principally caused by the British Squadron having been urged into Battle previous to its being in a proper state to meet its Enemy by a promised Co-operation of the Land Forces which was not carried into effect, and by the very pressing Letters and Communications of their Commander in Chief whereby it appears he had on the tenth of September One thousand eight hundred and fourteen only

waited the naval Attack to storm the Enemy's Works and the Signal of the Approach of the British Squadron on the following Day, by scaling the Guns of the Confiance had been settled between the late Captain Downie and Major Coore on the Evening of the tenth of that Month and which promised Co-operation was communicated to the other Officers and Crews of the British Squadron before the commencement of the Action, but the Court further agreed that the Attack would have been more effectual if part of the Gun Boats had not failed in their Duty, and if the British Squadron had not been early deprived of part of their force by the fire of the Enemy and if others had not been prevented by the baffling Winds from getting into the Station assigned them. That the said Captain Daniel Pring and Lieutenant James Robertson who succeeded to the Command of the Confiance after the lamented fall of Captain Downie, whose Conduct was marked by the most conspicuous Zeal and Valour, and also the said Lieutenant Christopher James Bell Commander of the Gun Boat Murray and M^{r} James Robertson Commander of the Gun Boat Marshall Beresford, (who appeared to take their Trials at this Court Martial) conducted themselves with great Zeal, Bravery, and Ability during the Action, That Lieutenant William Hicks Commander of the Cutter Finch also conducted himself in Action with becoming Bravery, That the other surviving Officers, and Company of the before-mentioned Ships and Vessels, and also of the Chubb (except Lieutenant James M^{c}Ghie her Commander who had not appeared to take his Trial) also conducted themselves with proper Courage, and the Court did adjudge the said Captain Daniel Pring Lieutenant James Robertson, Lieutenant William Hicks, Lieutenant Christopher James Bell, and M^{r} James Robertson, and the rest of the surviving Officers and Company of the said before mentioned ships and Vessels (except the said Lieutenant James M^{c}Ghie) to be most honorably acquitted.

The Court was again opened, Captain Daniel Pring, and the surviving Officers and Company of His Majesty's Squadron employed on Lake Champlain were brought in, Audience admitted and Sentence passed accordingly.

Mr Greetham
Depy Judge Adve of the Fleet

CAPTAIN PRING'S STATEMENT

Mr President and Gentlemen of the Court—

My letter to Commodore Sir James Lucas Yeo dated the 12th of September 1814. which has been just read to you, contains a general view of the Action which took place on Lake Champlain on the preceeding day, and on this part of the subject I shall not trouble the Court any further, excepting that *perhaps* I may have occasion to advert to some few particulars of the engagement in aid of what I shall state in my defence—

I mean now to give to this Court, in justice to the memory of my late gallant Commander Captn Downie, and in justification of myself and of the Officers and men who served under me on that occasion, what *I* conceive to have been the cause of the failure for which a Courtmartial is this day held ; and I conceive that the Court will be satisfied after a consideration of my letter, and of the evidence that I have no doubt will be brought forward in support of it ; and of *my* reasons *for* our failure ; that our disasters could not have been foreseen at the commencement of the Engagement, and that we went into Action with every prospect of success ; and I moreover feel confident that I shall convince you that Captain Downie had somewhat *more* than a common prospect of success, and that he had every expectation of such assistance, as would effectually provide against one of those accidents which often defeat the best concerted plans of the most able Commanders and such as did actually happen on the present occasion ; I allude here to the circumstance of some part of the Squadron

not having carried into execution the plan of attack which had been previously agreed upon by Captain Downie.—

I trust gentlemen that it will appear to you on this day, that every Officer and man on board the Brig which I had the honour of Commanding, and the principal part of the Officers and Men in the Squadron did their duty, and will receive at your hands an honorable acquittal.

I shall first endeavour to prove to you that the Physical strength of the American force was superior to our own; and in addition to this, that the British fought under circumstances which were in themselves very disadvantageous to them; and I shall then proceed to state the inducements that weighed with Cap^{t} Downie in attacking the American squadron with an inferiority of force and position—

In pursuance of my first point I must beg to refer to the comparative statements of the British and American forces annexed to my letter of the 12th.

It appears by reference to them that the Enemy was superior to us in weight of Metal and number of men, nearly the whole of the crews of the Americans were comprized ot prime seamen, and some of them *I am sorry* to observe were natives of our own country. Their Fleet which was moored under cover of their own works on shore, in line of Battle with Springs on their Cables and stern Anchors out were enabled by their steady position, to cause a most destructive raking fire on ours while it was sailing in, and getting secured for action at Anchor—

The Confiance the largest of the English Vessels had only been off the Stocks 16 days; Captain Downie did not take the command of the force on the Lake before the 3rd of September The crew of the Confiance was composed of men taken from a Variety of Vessels at Quebec and from detachments of the Royal Marine Artillery, and the 39th regiment, and the greater part of that crew, together with some of the Officers had not joined until within a few days before the

action took place ; and could consequently have been hardly known to each other or to their Officers, and the most of our Gun Boats were in great part manned with Canadians who spoke nothing but the French language.

These were the advantages on the one side, and the disadvantages on the other—

I admit that valour, and more particularly such valour as we have seen displayed in our Navy, will surmount the greatest difficulties, and I refer you Gentlemen to the account of the Action that has been given, and to the evidence that will be brought forward on this day, as proofs that the British squadron in general were not wanting in the most persevering and extraordinary courage in the present instance—But I appeal to this Court which is so capable of forming a correct judgement on this subject, whether an Officer of prudence and discretion would have so far forgotten his duty to himself and his country, as to have hazarded an Action with the enemy under such unfavourable circumstances—

The prudence and discretion of our late gallant Commander has I believe never been called in question, and I am quite clear that with such qualifications he would not have attempted an attack on the American Naval force unless he had some strong assurance that he would meet with some support from another quarter—and I shall now proceed to prove to you that he had ample reason to expect such assistance—

It is necessary for me in the first place to state that at this time the British Army was before Plattsburgh with an intention of crossing the Saranac and storming the enemys works.

Between the 3rd of September when Captain Downie took the command of the Confiance and the time of the action I had several conversations with him, some immediately after he had had interviews with the Commander of the Land forces in which he informed me that the said Commander wished, as his Army had been so much annoyed by the American gun Boats in crossing dead Creek on their way to Plattsburgh

that Captain Downie would come up with his Fleet, and draw off the attention of the Americans while the army was crossing the Saranac; and would attack their fleet at the same time the army attacked the works on land.

I shall now refer you to the correspondence that passed between the Commander of the land forces and Cap^{t} Downie previously to the commencement of the Action—

I submit to you gentlemen that the letters of the 7th 8th and 9th as well as the answers to them, all contain a distinct reference to a co-operation agreed upon between The Commander of the land forces and Cap^{t} Downie, but the letter of the 10th goes still farther, and points out to Captain Downie the nature of the assistance which the land forces had engaged to afford the naval Squadron.

That letter was delivered on the day it bears date by Major Coore, an Aid de Camp to the Commander of the land forces to Captain Downie in my presence, when our Fleet was lying off little Chazy; and at the interview that then took place, it was determined between Major Coore and Captain Downie, that the scaling of the Guns of the Confiance, should be the signal by which the Land forces should be informed of the approach of the Naval Squadron, in order that they might know when their co-operation was wanted.

It was the intention of Captain Downie to move toward Plattsburg early in the morning of the 10th and we got under weigh for that purpose, but in consequence of unfavourable wind, we could make but little progress, and were obliged to anchor again nearly in the same spot from which we weighed. The next morning however the wind veered to the Northward, and we set sail for the Bay of Plattsburgh.

The guns of the Confiance were scaled before she was abreast of Cumberland head.

I had previous to the action communicated to my Crew that the Land forces were to attack the works on shore, at

the same moment that we were to go into action with the Fleet, by which it was supposed the Americans would feel it necessary to quit their anchorage, & thereby give us an opportunity of deriving advantage from their confusion—With this Assurance and prospect our Officers and men went into Action with the greatest confidence, and never was courage more conspicuous than in the conduct of those on board my own Brig and on board the Confiance which was the Vessel next to me.

After the most obstinate and determined resistance the Confiance was at length compelled to strike, when the united fire of the whole American fleet was directed against the Linnet.—Our Crew was still steady, and I was even now in hopes that every moment would bring in the assistance that had been promised, and which I had been expecting throughout the Action, and by which alone, except by being towed out, I could expect to save my ship.

The Water was now nearly a foot above the lower deck and the wounded were obliged to be put on the Chests and Cables to keep them out of it which was over the Platform placed for receiving them. In this situation we fought nearly a quarter of an hour, when at length I gave up all expectation of retrieving my disasters and came to the resolution of striking my Colours.

That it was the duty for Captain Downie to Co-operate with the Land forces cannot admit of a doubt, that he went into Action with the full expectation of receiving a simultaneous assistance from the Army, is equally clear ; and I leave you to judge whether the letters which have been read, and the facts which I have stated to you, held out to him such an assurance of support on the part of the Commander of the Land forces, as warranted Captain Downie in attacking the enemy while his squadron was under such disadvantages—

If that should be your opinion the conduct of the gallant Captain has been irreproachable, and you will determine

whether that of the Officers and men during the action deserves praise—

I here close my defence with the most perfect confidence in the justice of this Tribunal, and quite satisfied that an honourable acquittal will be the reward, of those whose services have deserved well of their country—

DAN PRING Commander
HM late Sloop Linnet.

H^d Qua^rs Bevauck at Chazy
4 Sep^r 8 o Clock *PM*

Sir

I am directed by His Excellency to acknowledge the receipt of a letter from Captain Pring announcing his proceedings at the Isle la Motte—in answer to which I am desired to acquaint you, that Major General Robinson is ordered to march on Little Chazy to-morrow with Three Battalions and a proportion of Artillery & will be instructed to co-operate in the execution of your Plans—

The Corps assembled here will march before day break tomorrow morning, towards Platsburg, & It is his Excellencys intention to halt at a distance of about eight miles on ground a little beyond Sampsons Inn—from whence information will be sent you, in the event of any occurrance of importance, and his Excellency will be happy to receive any communications you may have to make to him.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedient Humble Servt
EDW^D BAYNES
Adj^t NA

Captain Downie Roy^l Navy—

Endorsed 4^th Sept^r Major Gen^l Baynes

Chazy 5th Sept 1814

Sir

I am directed by His Excellency the Commander of the Forces to inform you of my arrival in this place, with Three Regiments of the First Brigade and request you will inform me in what way I can most usefully co-operate with you—

I have the honor to be
Sir, Your Obedient
humble Servant
F P Robinson
Major Gen[l]
Comm[g] 1st Brigade

Captain Downie
R.N.

Endorsed. 5th Sept[r] Major Gen[l] Robinson
to Cap[n] Downie

Head Quarters Plattsburg
Wednesday 7 A.M. 7th Sep[r] 1814

Sir/

The Enemy's force in the Bay consist of a Ship, inferior to the Confiance, a Brig—a large Schooner, a Sloop and seven or eight Gun boats.

When the Gun boats are manned the remaining craft appear to have but few men left on board.—If you feel that the Vessels under your Command are equal to a contest with those I have described, you will find the present moment offers many advantages which may not again occur.

As my ulterior movements depend on your decision, you will have the goodness to favor me with it, with all possible promptitude—

I have the honor to be
Sir Y[r] most Obedient
humble Servant
George Prevost

P.S. In the event of your coming forward immediately, you will furnish conveyance for the two 8 Inch Mortars

ordered from Isle aux Noix with their Stores, provided you can do so without delaying the sailing of your Squadron.—

To Capt. Downie R.N.
Com[s] H.M. Ships on the Richelieu.

Defects of HM Late Sloop Linnet in Action with the American Squadron on Lake Champlain 12[th] Sept 1814

Main stay shot away
Main spring d°
„ Topmast d°
„ d° Spring d°
„ Braces and Lifts d°
„ Topsail ——— D°
„ Topsail Hallyards
„ 3 shrouds on Larboard side Lower Rigging
„ Topsail Bow lines and Bunt lines
Fore 1 shroud Starboard side shot away
„ Topmast Backstay d°
„ „ Stay ——— d°
„ Rig[s] 3 Shrouds Starboard Side d°
„ Topsail Braces and Bow lines d°
„ Topsail Haulyards——— d°
„ Jib and Fore Topmast Stays and Haulyards—d°
Bobstays ——— d°
Jib Guys ——— d°
Gammoning of the Bowsprit d°

his App[d]
James × Hashum
mark
Boatswain Mate

D Pring. Captain H M late Sloop Linnet

William Drew.
Sen[r] L[t]

Endorsed : Boatswains defects.

U S Ship Saratoga
Sept^{r} 15th 1814 Off Plattsburgh

Sir,

As Providence has given into my command the squadron on Lake Champlain of which you were, after the Fall of Captain Downie the commanding Officer; I beg you will, after the able conflict you sustained, and evidence of determined valor you evinced, on board his Britanic Majesty's Brig Linnet, untill the necessity of her surrender, accept of your enclosed Parole; not to serve against the United States or their dependencies, untill regularly exchanged—

With much respect I am
Sir, Yr obed^{t} S^{t}
T. Macdonough

Captain D Pring
Royal Navy.

Addressed Captain D Pring
Royal Navy
Present

Endorsed: From Cap^{t} Macdonough
15 Sep^{r} 1815 [*sic*].

This sheweth that I leave the United States on my Parole of Honor, not to serve in Arms against the said United States or their Dependencies untill regularly exchanged.—

Given under my Hand on board the
U. S. Ship Saratoga Sept^{r} 14th 1814
D. Pring Captain of H. M. late
Sloop Linnet.

App^{d} T. Macdonough

LIEUT: ROBERTSON'S STATEMENT.

M^{r} President and Gentlemen of the Court—

In stating the facts which have led to the Charges this day brought against me, I trust that I shall need no *Argument* to convince you, that from the circumstances that *did* take

place, it was impossible to prevent the disaster, that befel His Majesty's Squadron in the Lake Champlain, I feel *quite confident* that my Letter of the 12th of September which has been read to you, and *a simple narrative* of the Events authenticated by the Evidence that will be brought forward in support of it, will of itself be sufficient to render more illustrious the name of our late gallant Commander Captn Downie, and be a justification of the Conduct of the Officers and Men of His Majesty's late Ship Confiance, and *I do hope* that their good conduct and bravery will be distinguished by a *most Honourable* Acquittal—

His Majestys Ship Confiance, on board of which Vessel I was the First Lieutenant, was launched on the 25th of August 1814 being only 16 days before the Action—Captain Downie was not on the Lake, and did not take the command of her before the 3rd of September, at which time I also joined. The intermediate days between the time of her being launched and the Action were altogether employed in getting her manned and equipped. In that Country the difficulty of getting a Crew is very great, but by considerable exertion a Crew was obtained, but it consisted of Draughts of Men from several Vessels at Quebec, and from the 39th Regiment and from the Marine Artillery. These were collected together from time to time, between the 24th of August and the Night of the 9th of September, and were not, nor could they be expected to be, at the time of the Action known to their Officers or to each other.

At daylight on the 7th of September the Confiance was moved from the Warf at Isle aux Noix, and by dint of Towing, Warping and Sweeping during the whole day against Wind and Current, anchored late in the Evening a little below the Frontier in Co with H:M: Brig Linnet which joined us at Ash Island. While warping up the major part of the Powder was got into a Batteau and towed astern until the after Magazine was finished in the Evening.

On the 8th weighed in Company with the Linnet and by Warping, Sweeping, Towing and Sailing Anchored off Chazy in the afternoon, where we were joined by the Finch and Chub Cutters & Gun Boats. Quarter'd the Ships Company. Employed clearing the Decks Artificers employed fitting Chocks, Beds, and Coins for the Guns, and Magazine passages.

On the 9th remained at anchor, Employed setting up the Rigging, scraping the Decks. Manning and arranging the Gun Boats. Exercised the Great Guns, Artificers employed fitting Beds Coins belaying pins &c. On this day orders were given to the Squadron to hold itself in readiness for sailing up the Lake towards Plattsburgh, in order to attack the American Squadron which was lying at anchor in that Bay : but the wind being that night unfavourable we could not proceed. At daylight the next morning we weighed and commenced warping up the Lake. At 7 am the breeze freshened, and we made sail and attempted to work to windward : but the ship drawing only 8 feet water, the Channel narrow, and the wind now blowing hard and directly ahead obliged us to Anchor at 11 am, after having made little or no progress. We were employed in the afternoon in clearing the Decks for Action, Exercising the Great Guns, shortening the breechings fore and aft, and loading the Guns for scaling— The Artificers were employed in making Shot lockers, altering Beds and Coins and driving in belaying pins &c.—

The wind having shifted during the night, and it now blowing a smart breeze up the Lake, we weighed before daylight on the 11th with the Squadron, and ran up with topsails on the Cap. shortly after daylight the Guns were scaled, for the purpose, as Captain Downie then said, of giving intimation of our approach to the British Army, and I was afterwards informed by Captain Downie that that signal was given, in order that the land forces might prepare for cooperating, for that it had been agreed between the Commander of the Land Forces and Captain Downie that the works on

shore should be stormed by the Army, at the same moment that the naval Action was to commence.—The Guns after being scaled were double shotted—Springs were passed for both Bowers, the Stream Cable was led through the Stern Port, and bent to the Sheet Anchor—Captain Downie then called all the Commanding Officers of the Squadron on board the Confiance, and gave them particular directions to what object they were to direct the Fire of their respective Vessels, for the purpose as he added, of preventing as much as possible the necessity of making Signals.

Having approached within a League of Cumberland Head the Enemys Mast Heads were seen over the Land; our Squadron hove too, and Captain Downie accompanied by the Master went in his Gig to reconnoitre their position. The boat having returned at the expiration of about half an hour, the Signal was immediately made to bear up and sail large: The Topsails of the Confiance were then hoisted, the Topgallant Sails set, and under this sail, with the Jib and Spanker, she went into Action, hauling close round Cumberland Head with the wind on the Starboard beam—

The American Squadron was lying at anchor, and moored in line of Battle in the Bay of Plattsburgh under cover of their works on shore.

Captain Downie now called all the Officers and Crew together, and said to them nearly the following words "Now my lads there are the American ships and Batteries, at the same moment we attack the Ships our Army are to storm the Batteries" After this conceiving that a repetition of the same sort of harangue might inspirit so disorganized a Crew that was going into Action under circumstances apparently so disadvantageous to us, I went round the Quarters after Captain Downie had dismissed the Men, and minutely pointed out to them how the co-operation was to take place, agreeably to what I had previously understood from Captain Downie.

In the plan of attack that had been given out, the Linnet

supported by the Chub was directed to attack the Enemys Brig the Eagle (the van and Weathermost of his line) the Confiance was to keep the Wind until on the Bow of the Eagle, then putting her helm a Starboard, and when yard arm and yard arm fire the starboard guns into her, which had been previously loaded with Canister in addition to the two round shot—when clear of the Eagles stern, the Confiance's helm was to be put a port, and when athwart the Bows of the Saratoga (the enemy's Senior Officers Ship and the second in his line) to anchor first by the Stern, and then with one or both Bowers. Our Gun Boats were directed to pull up with the greatest expedition, fire once, and then board the Ticonderoga Schooner (the third in his line) and the Finch was order'd to support the Gun boats, or carry the Preble Cutter—(the rear Vessel of the enemy's line).

The Confiance being in advance of the British Squadron, the whole of the Enemy's line commenced firing on her when within Gun shot, by which she sustained with other considerable damage the loss of her Sheet Anchor—The wind heading and dying away, we were compelled to anchor rather before the Beam of the Saratoga, at the distance of nearly half a mile. The small Bower Cable and spring being shot away the moment the Anchor was gone, the best Bower was immediately dropped, the spring for which suffer'd the same fate—

The action then commenced on our part, the foremost guns bearing only on the Eagle, the midship and after ones on the Saratoga.

The Linnet soon after took her Station before the Beam of the Eagle, and the Chub having never anchored passed astern of the Linnet, and dropping between the Confiance and the Eagle and then between that Ship and the Saratoga with her colours struck, prevented the Confiance for some time from firing on the Enemy, while she drifted slowly within the line of Fire—

At the time the Confiance anchored, the Gun Boats were at a considerable distance from the enemy's line, and pulling up slowly apparently in confusion, commenced a distant cannonading on the Ticonderoga, with the exception of two or three, which gallantly and unsupported, advanced nearly within musket shot of their object, but were soon compelled to retire.

The Finch order'd in support of the Gun Boats, edging too far to Leeward grounded on a shoal out of the line of Fire, and consequently was of no further service in maintaining the Action, than having in her advance, in conjunction with the Gun Boats hastily forced the Preble to cut and retire in shore with her colours struck, where however she afterwards rehoisted them.

Shortly after the commencement of the Action, our gallant Commander fell, and the Command of the Confiance devolved on me.

About the middle of the Action the Eagle was compelled to cut, when she made sail with an evident intention of quitting the action altogether; but passing close inside of the Saratoga and being hailed by her, she again anchored between the Saratoga and Ticonderoga. In this new position she kept up a destructive Fire on the Confiance without being exposed to a shot from that Ship or the Linnet—

The Confiance having now only four Guns fit for service on the side opposed to the Enemy, and they being lumber'd by Wreck, it became absolutely necessary to attempt to get the Starboard Guns to bear. This could not be expected to be easily executed, as the surviving Crew now evinced an evident disposition to discontinue the Action, and the Anchor we were riding by being the only one left to us. A spring was however got on the Cable, and bent by the Exertions of Lieut[s] Creswick, Hornby M[r] Bryden the Master, M[r] Simmonds and the other officers—

The Crew hauled on the Spring, and while veering the

Cable, a raking fire killed and wounded several of the Men on the Spring, and it was impossible to rally them afterwards—

The attention of the Ticonderoga having been but for a short time called to our Gun Boats, gave her an opportunity nearly during the whole of the Action of keeping up a steady deliberate, and latterly a raking fire on the Confiance, while the new position of the Eagle gave her the same advantages—

The enemy's Gun boats, which appeared at the commencement of the Action extremely shy, taking advantage of the perilous situation of the Confiance and the extraordinary conduct of the principal part of our Gun boats, had now an ample opportunity without risk to themselves, of complying with the written orders issued by Capt[n] M[c]Donough prior to the Action, which were, that the fire of his whole force should be concentrated on the Confiance, to ensure her Capture or Destruction.

It was now impossible to get a single gun of the Confiance to bear with effect on the Enemy, My much lamented Captain and Relative and many of the best of our Men had fallen, the water was above the Gun Room Deck, the unfortunate wounded below were in extreme danger of being drowned the Chub had struck early in the Action, the Finch was aground & our Gun boats were at a distance, the Ship was in a Sinking and Shattered state, the Carnage on board was dreadful and the Co-operation which we had been led to expect was not afforded, induced me to call the surviving Officers together and with their approbation with such distressing prospects before me I gave the painful orders for striking the Colours—

A considerable period elapsed before the enemy was in a condition to take possession of the Confiance, during which time every effort was made to keep her from sinking, by pumping and bailing at the Hatchways for the preservation of the wounded.

After the Action the Americans removed their Vessels and Prizes from under the Guns of the works on shore, that were to have been attacked by the British land forces.

Such, Gentlemen, is the detail of the circumstances attending an Action so disastrous to our Country, and such was the Result, a result, which was inevitable, if it could have been foreseen that the Squadron would have been left unsupported, but which it was almost out of the Nature of things to have taken place, if the assistance and co-operation promised had been given. It would have been madness for our Squadron, in the state in which it then was, to have attacked such a force as the American fleet, while it was at anchor and under cover of its own works, without assistance from the Land, while success must have been the certain consequence of the Co-operation that had been agreed upon. I hope and trust however that it will appear to this Court that every exertion was made by me, the Officers and Men, in accomplishing the object that was held out to us, and that although we were unsuccessful, the failure is not attributable to the Conduct of the Confiance in that most arduous and sanguinary Contest—

Jas Robertson { Senior Lieutenant of H:M: late Ship Conf[iance]

Account of the number and Size of Guns mounted on board His Majestys Ship Confiance, George Downie Esq September 11, 1814 Viz—

	prs	
On the Main deck—	24 long Guns	26 in Number
	32 prs—Carronades	4 in N°
„ „ Round house—	24 prs Carronades	4 in N°
„ „ Fore Castle—	24 prs long Gun	One in N°
	24 pr Carronades	Two in N°

Statement of the British Squadron in Action with the American Squadron on Lake Champlain—11 Sept[r] 1814—

No.	Vessels name.	How rigged.	No long Guns.	No Carronades.	Total.	Wt. Metal.	Remarks &c.
1	Confiance .	Ship	27 24 p[rs]	6 24 p[r] 4 32 ,,	37	920	No Men quarter'd at the 4..32 p[r] or at 2 of the 24 p[r] Carronades
2	Linnet . .	Brig	16 12 ,,	..	16	192	
3	Chub . .	Sloop	3 6 ,,	8 18 ,,	11	162	
4	Finch . .	D°	1 18 Columbiad 4 6 p[r].	6 18 ,,	11	150	
5	Yeo Gun Boat .	Lugger	1 24 ,,	1 32 ,,	2	56	
6	Prevost . .	D°	1 24 ,,	1 32 ,,	2	56	
7	Blucher . .	D°	1 18 ,,	1 32 ,,	2	50	
8	Wellington .	D°	1 18 ,,	1 18 ,,	2	36	
9	Murray . .	D°	1 18 ,,	..	1	18	
10	Drummond .	D°	1 18 ,,	..	1	18	
11	Beckwith . .	D°	1 18 ,,	..	1	18	
15	Four Boats .	D°	..	1 32 ,, each	4	128	
					90	1804	

Jas. Robertson } Late Senior L[t] of the Confiance

Endorsed. Statement of the British Squadron.

Statement of the damage the Guns & Carriages of His Majesty's Ship Confiance received in Action with the American Squadron on the 11th day of September 1814 when she was Captured by the Enemy and Captain Downie killed. Viz.

Larboard — Main deck

No 2 Bolts drawn out of the side
4 The fore and hind Axletrees and Trucks broke
5 The transom of the Carriage shot away
6 The trucks Split to pieces
8 The Carriage broke to pieces & Guns dismounted
9 Bolts drawn out of the Side
11 Muzzle of the Gun split
12 Carriage broke to pieces, Gun dismounted
13 Bolts drawn out of the side

Starboard
22 Axletrees broke
23 part of the Cheek shot away
24 part of both Cheeks shot away

Forecastle
Midship Gun, Cap Square & part of the Trunnion shot away

Larboard
No Carriage broke to pieces & Gun dismounted

Starboard
Ditto

Larboard — Poop
No 1 Carriage broke to pieces Gun dismounted

Starbd
3 Breeching shot away

Jas Robertson 1st Lt R Elwin, Gunner

Endorsed: Confiances Gunners Deffects
11th Septr 1814

A Return of Killed and Wounded on Board His Majestys late Ship Confiance in Action with the Enemy the 11th Sept[r] 1814

Killed	Quality	Killed	Quality
George Downie	Captain	Charles Laburn	Seaman
Anderson	Capt[n] R. M	Alexander Morrison	,,
William Gunn	Mid[n]	Charles Oatey	,,
Peter Jacobs	Seaman	Louis Butler	,,
Will[m] Stimpson	,,	Pat[k] M[c]Guire	,,
James Austin	,,	John Tempest	,,
Abraham Bean	,,	Thomas Douie	,,
John Berry	,,	Robert Charters	,,
John Mitchel	,,	William Smith	,,
Will[m] Griffith	,,	James Powers	,,
James Wilson	,,	Thomas Bishop	,,
Rob[t] Mathews	,,	William Beaty	,,
Joseph Rea	,,	Robert Richards	R M Art[y].
John M[c]Manus	,,	John Morris	,,
Daniel Capps	,,	Philip Prangly	R M
Miles Sweney	,,	Henry Holgoud	,,
John Sald	,,	Edward England	,,
William Rose	,,	Benjamin Thomas	,,
John Beese	,,	Philip Bohagan	,,
James Heggett	,,	Joseph Visery	,,

Dangerously Wounded		Dangerously Wounded	
Names	Quality	Names	Quality
Owen Green	Seaman	Hugh Fullard	Seaman
Alex[r] Williamson	,,	Joseph Cox.	,,
William Auston	,,	Edward Shelton	,,
William Loveless	,,	George Erving	,,
Dan[l] Drysdale	,,	M. M[c]Loughlin	,,
William Stokes	,,	Samuel Atkins	,,
Geo: W. Slaney	,,	Roger Owens	,,
John Wright	,,	James Bivin	R. Art[y].
John Newman	,,	Jacob Maling	,,
Alex[r] Bouie	,,	William Bird	R M Art[y].
Andrew Ramsay	,,	John Weaver	Marine
John Kirkham	,,	James Smith	,,
Stephen Moore	,,		

Severely Wounded

Names	Quality	Names	Quality
Robert Lee	Mid[n]	John Radioffe	Seaman
William Vaughan	Seaman	John Smith	,,
Robert Campbell	,,	Joseph Moore	,,
John Hill	,,	Joseph Stephens	,,
John Hames	,,	John Long	,,
Joseph Pearse	,,	Thomas Broadney	,,
Dan[l] O Bryan	,,	Mark Everhard	R Marines
Henry M[c]Laughlin	,,	James May	

Slightly Wounded

Names	Quality	Names	Quality
R A Bryden	Master	George Bond	Seaman
Parker	Purser	Bryan Cannan	,,
John Davidson	Boats[n]	John Witherhead	,,
Douie	Mid[n]	Richard Hill	,,
C. C. Todd	Ass[t] Surgeon	Thomas Carey	,,
David Davis	Seaman	B. Foudram	,,
John Hales	,,	James M[c]Ginnis	,,
Geo: Silvestor	,,	Serj[t]: Carne	R M At[y]
Arthur Cavinagh	,,	Mark Raynolds	,,
William Gorgan	,,	Thomas Alder	,,
Geo: M[c]Cormick	,,	James Shephard	R. Ar[ty]
George Smith	,,	Edw[d] Kimberly	39 Reg.
Joseph Louis	,,	James Primely	,,
James Martin.	,,	Rob[t] Higginbottom	,,
Scot Lisk	,,	Richard Adlum	Marines
James O Bryan	,,	Joseph Jibbing	,,
M Kildalhan	,,	John Carroll	,,
Edward Leach	,,	John Grater	,,
William Brown	,,	John Lockyer	,,
Phillip Barry	,,	James Wilkins	
Joseph Warren	,,	Henry Barrau	Serj[n].

Killed 40
D.W. 25
S.W. 16
SLW 42

123

Ja[s] Robertson {Late Senior L[t] of the Confiance}

Endorsed: Return of Killed and Wounded on Board His Majesty's late ship Confiance in Action with the Enemy on Lake Champlain

11 September 1814

Abstract of the Crew of His Majesty's late Ship Confiance

From what Ship &c	N° on Board	Number			Escaped from Prison and going thereto	Deserted from Prison and returning from thence since Peace	Embarked on board H M S Bulwark	Other particulars	Remarks
		Killed	Wounded	Total					
Officers including Mids.	20	3	6	9	..	..	11	Since dead 2, gone to Kingston 2, to England 1, joined his corps 1	
Leopard	58	9	29	38	2	5	36	Since Dead 2, gone to England 4	Part of her Crew which were sent up to the Lakes after Shipwreck— They arrived at the Isle aux Noix the Day previous to the Confiances being Launched and composed the best part of her Crew altho sent to the Lakes against their inclination.
Ceylon	26	3	6	9	1	8	14	..	Part of her Crew sent up from Quebec.
Ajax	10	2	3	5	5	1	2	..	Chiefly men who were in disgrace and who were the only men belonging to the Ajax allowed to proceed to the Lakes altho several of her best men Volunteered for the Service.
Warspite	12	4	6	10	..	3	4	Gone to England 1	Men of the same description some of whom Deserted previous to the Action.
Vigo	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	

Indian . .	7	..	4	4	..	..	5	Since dead 1, Deserted on the Road from Isle aux Noix to Quebec 1
Linnet . .	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	..
Lakes Establishment	12	2	2	4	2	..	7	Left at Isle aux Noix 1
Cornelia . .	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Royal Sovereign	2	..	2	2	..	..	2	..
Montreal . .	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	Gone to England 1
Transports .	25	6	3	9	3	3	9	Since Dead 1, gone to England 1, left at Isle aux Noix 1, Deserted on the Road from Isle aux Noix to Quebec 1
Impressed .	4	1	1	2	2	1	..	..
From Prison .	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Volunteers .	2	1	..	1	..	..	..	Gone to England 1
Royal Marines .	65	6	11	17	..	21	34	Since Dead 1, gone to England 2, Deserted from the Isle aux Noix whilst on his Parole 1 — Chiefly from the 1st Battn the rest from Several Ships at Quebec.
Royal Artillery	3	1	2	3	..	..	..	Joined their Corps 2
R[l] Marine Artillery	8	1	5	6	..	1	..	Since Dead 1, Joined their Corps 5 — Embarked the Night of the 9th Septr to make up the Complement.
39th Regt. .	10	..	3	3	..	..	..	..
	270	40	83	123	15	45	126	

Jas Robertson 1st Lt

Endorsed : Abstract of the Crew of the Confiance.

A List of Standing or Lower rigin Shot a way on bord of H M Ship Confiance when Ingaged with the Enemy on Lake Champlain Lower Cenady the 11th of September 1814.

Four rigin twelve shrouds
Main rigin eleven shrouds
Mizen rigin six shrouds

All this seen of Deck

John Davidson Boatswain

Jas Robertson 1st Lt

Endorsed: Confiances Boatswain's deffects
11th Septr 1814

Narritive of the Proceedings of H.M. Cutter Finch in Action with the American Squardron; on the 11th day of September, 1814 in Platsburgh Bay, Lake Champlain.

At 8 A.M. went on Board H.M. Ship Confiance ℔ Signal to receive my orders, which were to this purport, from Captn Downie; to take my Station to the Left of the Enemy's Line, to Engage the enemy's Schooner while our Gun boats, carried the said Schooner; and then for the Finch to carry the Enemy's sloop. in rounding Cumberland Head observed the Enemy's Force, to consist of a Frigate Brig large Schooner, Sloop and ten Gun boats. the Wind light from the NW, 8.20 the Enemy's Squardron commenced Action on our Squardron, while runing down to take their respective Stations; 8.35 the Confiance and Linnet commenced Action with the Enemy still runing to take my Station. after the Confiance and Linnet anchor'd and the attention of them was intirely taking up with the Enemy's Ship and Brig: at 9 the Enemy's Schooner

and Sloop commenced Firing on me still runing to close with them. at the same time every shot from the Schooner either cut away some of my Rigging or huld me: I reserveing my Fire till within half Gun Shot distance, 9.20 Commenced Action with the American Schooner and Sloop still edging to board the Enemy's Sloop, and keeping up a heavy and well directed Fire on her and the Schooner, 10.15 when within Pistol Shot of the Sloop, cheer'd, observed the Enemy's Sloop slip her cable and haul down her Colours to me. turn'd my Guns on the Schooner and keeping a heavy Fire on her, at 11 the Carpenter came and inform'd me, from the number of Shot reced between Wind and Water, and others under Water, though Plugg'd up: a plank on the Larboard Bilge nearly stove out, that the Cutter was making Water very fast, rigg'd the Pump and kept a hand constantly Pumping; she having at this time three feet and half water in: 11.10 observed the American Sloop run under her Batteries, Light Airs from the WNW: Found as the Wind had shifted more to the Westward and unless I Tack'd I could not weather the Reef near Crab Island, but from the deal of Water in her found she would not stay, the Pilot then inform'd me their was room to Wear. I then order'd the Helm to be put up; and when nearly round, she unfortunately took the Ground, on the outer edge of the Reef of Rocks near Crab Island: two Guns on the Island open'd their Fire on me with round and Grape. still keeping a heavy Fire on the Schooner, and the Field Pieces on shore, and soon had the Pleasure of Killing or Wounding every Man at the Guns on Shore and Silence them; 11.30 Observed the Confiance Surrender, at 12 Observed the Linnet Surrender after getting my small Bower Anchor out, and trying every Exertion, to get the Cutter off: hove some Ballast overboard, but found I could not start her, I then order'd four Eighteen Pound Carronades to be hove overboard but without any Effect to her; having found the rest of the Squardron had unfortunately surrendered and our Gun boats going out of the Bay.

12.10 sent for my Officers and Men aft, who said it was impossible to do more as the rest of the Squardron had Surrendered, 12.15 I with great reluctance and regret order'd the Colours to be haul'd down, after every Officer and person on board trying every effort and exertion to get the Cutter off. Damage reced by the Enemy's shots, Fore Stay cut away, Mainmast Mainboom and Bowsprit nearly cut through. Boom Topping Lift cut away ; running and standing rigging nearly cut to pieces, and my Sails very much cut up Five Shot between Wind and Water and several under Water, a plank on the Larboard Bilge nearly stove out by a Shot, had I been so fortunate as to have got her off, and when in deep water, she must Inevitable have Sunk, but have the Consolation to think from the way Disabled State of the Cutter, that she will not be any of any Service to the Enemy; I herewith transmit a list of my Wounded from the very small Loss on board, I contribute it to the Enemy Firing so low, Viz^{t} Rich^{d} Vaskey Seaman and Benj^{n} Broun Marine Dangerously Wounded, both Grape Shot Wounds, James Alfred, Seamen, and Dan^{l} Davis Marine Slightly Wounded: I have great pleasure in observing the Steady and cool conduct of M^{r} Air Midshipmen, Likewise my Seamen and Marines for their good and steady conduct on this day, Likewise having the pleasure to observe their conduct on Different occasions before when in Action with the Enemy. I trust that the Proceedings of H.M. late Cutter Finch on the 11th day of September 1814 will meet with their Lordships Approbation.

Will Hicks Lieu^{t} Com^{s}
H.M. late Cutter Finch

Endorsed : Narritive of the Proceedings of H.M late Cutter Finch in Action with the American Squadron Sept^{r} 11th 1814

No. 5

The Defects of His Majesty's Ship Confiance on the 11th Day of September 1814—in Action with the American Fleet on Lake Champlain—George Downey Esqr Captain killed in action—

The Fore main—and Mizen Masts entirely disabled Fore and Main Top Mast badly wounded Mizen Top Mast shot away —Bowsprit badly wounded—Larboard Cathead and knee of the head shot away—Rudder head shot away and otherways so much wounded, that rendered it quite unserviceable Twelve shot—between Wind and Water, one in particular—which drove a Plank out—seven feet long from its work, which was the reason of making so much water at the Close of the Action—as it was impossible to do anything with it, untill the Ship could be creen'd over to Port—Both Pumps were set to work—and a constant bailing was kept at the Main Hatchway to keep the water clear from the Wounded Men—between Decks—Water in the Well at the time we struck—Three feet six inches—

Henry Cox
Carpenter

Jas Robertson 1st Lt

To Lieut. Roberson
Commanding Officer
H.M.S. Confiance

Endorsed : Confiances Carpenters Deffects
11th Septr 1814

Mr President and Gentlemen of the Court

I have nothing to add to my defence, and I trust that every circumstance which has been developed in the course of the examination and cross examination of the Witnesses, has only tended to corroborate every statement in the paper which I have already delivered to you—

Being just as anxious to rescue the character of my late worthy and gallant Commander, from any imputation of Blame, as to justify myself, I do hope that it will appear in your decision that he was urged into the contest before his ship was ready for combat, by the *actual promise* of a Co-operation of the Land forces; and that you are of opinion that the result of the action *might* have been successful, had the expected assistance been afforded to the Naval Squadron—

DAN PRING
Commander

Mr President and Gentlemen of this Honble Court.

With all possible respect would I now beg to offer to your consideration what I have to state in removing every Doubt if any may exist in the minds of the Court as to my Conduct as an officer on the unfortunate occasion which is the Subject of your present Investigation and in doing this I would endeavour to explain more clearly than has already appeared in Evidence what that Conduct was and at the same time offer my own witnesses in Confirmation of my Statement and I have the firmest reliance on the kindness and impartiality of the Court that no one circumstance in the least favorable to me will be lost sight of or not duly appreciated by you.

But before Sir I enter on this, least a Gleam of Doubt should for a Moment be entertained of my personal courage (to the Want of which my very Soul is abhorrent) from any apprehension of my being aloof or at too great a distance in the Action you are enquiring into. And as I am not I beleive personally known to the Members of this Honble Court I hope I shall be excused in first stating to you what my Services have been that the Court may judge whether it be not utterly impossible for me to be deficient in so essential a part of an officers character—I am now at the age of 27—from my earliest time accustomed to the Sea and in May 1805 entered His Majesty's Service in the Theseus and in her was engaged

in the West Indies on different occasions in Boats.—I was afterwards in the Powerful in the East Indies and engaged in taking several French Vessels and at the destruction of Admiral Hartsinck's Squadron and a Number of Merchant Vessels at Batavia & Gresse. I was then in the Milford in Basque roads constantly on Boat Service and destroying the Enemy's Coasting Vessels and also destroying the Enemy's Gun Boats in Cadiz Bay. At the destruction of a Battery at River S^{t} Pedro and of the different Forts in the Bay previous to the Battle of Borrossa—I was next in the Wolf at Lake Ontario at the taking of the different Stores from Genessa & Sodas and commanded the Gunboats in the expedition to Plattsburg and taking it in 1813—I afterwards engaged the Enemy's Force under their Batteries at Burlington in Lake Champlain and took out two Vessels close in shore as well also as several other Vessels on the Lake.—I was next assisting at the defeat of General Wilkinson when I drove the Enemy's dragoons and Advance Troops from coming round the Bordage or Lake shore where I was Stationed.—All these prior to my having any Share in the unfortunate affair of your present Inquiry.

I have the usual Certificates to produce of my service under every officer with whom I sailed, but as I would not trouble the Court a Moment unnecessarily, I shall only produce two or three which more particularly notice or advert to my personal Bravery and Officerlike Conduct and they are these

[read them]

and I might add Sir that Sir James Lucas Yeo in July 1813 did me the honor to promote me to the Rank of Acting Lieu^{t} to serve under Capt^{n} Pring in consequence of my good conduct and I flatter myself he would now readily bear ample Testimony of it and if such had been my general demeanour up to the time you are now enquiring, It is not in vain Sir & Gent^{n} I humbly hope that I cast myself on your

liberal and indulgent attention as well as to all the circumstances I have to offer you and this Honble Court will I equally hope further excuse me if I just merely hint at the official Letters published in the Gazette respecting the Action in question.

Sir Geo: Provost in his Letter of the 17th Septr 1814 addressed to Earl Bathurst speaks as from his own observation " of the intrepid Valour with which our Flotilla was led into " Action and of his most sanguine hopes of complete Success " being blasted by a combination of unfortunate Events to " which Naval Warfare is peculiarly exposed" and Captn Pring in his Letter more particularly speaks in high Commendation of me.

These two Letters were written immediately after the Action and Captn Pring's was read over to the second surviving officer in Command Lieut. Robertson whom you have had as a Witness before you and it was approved of by him without the slightest suggestion of any alteration in it as it regarded me—I could not therefore but be surprised at Lieut Robertsons Testimony now as applying to myself being in any Degree at variance with those Letters and the more so as I humbly submit to the Court how improbable it is that any person on board one Ship in an Action at a moment when every hand ought to be engaged and his attention exclusively devoted to his own Ship can speak with precision of circumstances passing on board another Ship and especially if that other Ship happens to be a Smaller one low in the Water and the Bulwarks of the former as was Lieut Robertsons very high and both of them are engaged near each other in a short space—

But Sir as Lieut Robertson's Testimony and observing too that the Track of the French [*sic*] is erroneously laid down by the Master of the Confiance in the charts before you and he (the Master) could not in the Bustle of the Action precisely ascertain the Station she took when engaging the Schooner

and Sloop as these things have induced very considerable anxiety with me for fear this Honble Court should view my Conduct in any unfavorable Light and think I did not take the Station assigned me so promptly as I should have done, but which I submit to you neither of them could be fully competent to judge of engaged as I say they were in having their own individual Duties to attend to & exclusively occupying their own attention I yet trust I shall be able to prove from the examination of my own crew who must be the immediate Eye Witnesses of my own conduct that my personal courage was unimpeachable evincing the most perfect coolness, most inflexible Firmness and most determined courage all prevailing with me during the whole Action.

It has already appeared to the Court that my orders for His Majesty's Cutter Finch was to take my Station to the left of The Enemy's Line to engage the Enemy's Schooner while our Gunboats carried the Schooner and then for The Finch to carry the Enemy's Sloop.

My full Ships Company including Officers and every individual of every description was 32—and with these I went into Action.

Capt[n] Pring has proved to you that in first standing in to attack the Enemy I was ahead of the Gunboats considerably, taking the lead of the Action—but afterwards he did not see me.

I proceeded Sir to take my Station when the Enemy's Schooner & Sloop commenced firing on me and so continued as I run to close with them and every Shot from the Schooner either Cut away some of my Rigging or Hulled me. In thus proceeding, I continued considerably to head the Gunboats reserving my own Fire until within half Gun Shot distance when I commenced with both the Enemy's Schooner & Sloop edging to board the Sloop and keeping up a heavy and well directed Fire on both. My object for not keeping the Finch so close as I might have done was that I might

steer between both these Vessels so allotted for me to engage and which would have given me an advantageous Position under the Stern of the Schooner for supporting the Gun Boats and afterwards to carry the Enemy's Cutter The Prebble—But Baffling Winds and an unforeseen current took me farther to Leeward than could possibly have been expected or that I in the least could have anticipated nevertheless I engaged the Schooner Ticonderago of 17 Guns Sir more than I had and of much heavier Metal within range of grape for she had 4 long 18^{v}—4 long 12^{v} and the rest 32 lb carronades and the Finch received considerable damage from that heavy Vessel—Finding the Gunboats did not execute what they were ordered to do and having unfortunately encreased my distance from the Schooner I thought it necessary to direct my Fire against the Prebble which was done with such effect (and I had then come within Pistol Shot of her) as to oblige her to Cut and seek refuge under her own Forts and I conceived she had certainly struck to me but from the smoke I could not discern whether the Gunboats had any share in producing it nor whether they were near at the time—During this, every exertion was made to repair the damages wch the Finch had sustained to enable her to close with the Schooner and resume close Action with that Vessel not having had myself orders to anchor the Moment Sail could be made on the Finch I made three Attempts to Stay her, but unfortunately without effect, from the quantity of Water she had in her occasioned by the shotholes between Wind and Water so that she was nearly Waterlogged, and being assured by the Pilot there was sufficient room to Wear, I ordered the Helm instantly aWeather to get her on the Larboard Tack and when nearly round, she unfortunately took the Ground on the outer edge of the reef which lays a long way off Crab Island but which was not visible, and of which I was not aware as I had no chart of it—I trust it has been proved to the Court that no

orders were given to the Finch to anchor, and from the Superiority of Force opposed to her that the Court will feel convinced how impossible it was to be expected she should be able to maintain a Conflict with a Schooner of 17 heavy Guns, when the Gunboats had not put in force the orders they received for carrying her, more particularly when my orders were only to lead the Gun Boats in and support them while boarding the Schooner and then to attack the Prebble who was particularly pointed out as the Finch's opponent—that I was in Close Action (and not as Lieu[t] Robertson stated to you a long way out) my own People will prove and that I was within range of Grape Shot of which two of my Ships Company being wounded by Grape is a Confirmation, and I had several others wounded but did not think it worth while to return them as they were not disabled from Duty.

It was not Sir until after the other Ships had Surrendered, and until I saw the Gun Boats making the best of their way off out of the Enemy's reach that I struck my own Colours—But before I was reduced to that Sad and painful extremity I was constantly cheering, encouraging and animating my Men in every part of my Ship—and urging them to take a Cool deliberate aim at every Fire and I could see almost every Shot take effect—and when my Vessel grounded I presently silenced the Battery which opened upon me, having good reason to believe I had killed or Wounded every Man in it. And so much did my Ship's company esteem me after the Action was over, that as soon as we had Surrendered, they all came aft and said whenever I got another Vessel, they should be happy to serve under me. And Sir The only coward I had on my Ship was the Pilot whom I frequently caught dodging during the action and reprimanded him for it, and struck him twice with my Cutlass when he was skulking behind the Pump and I was obliged to threaten to cut him down if he did not do his Duty.

And if Sir and Gent[n] I shall be able to establish all this to you I may humbly hope you will be convinced there was not the least want of personal courage in me on this occasion but the very reverse accompanied with the utmost anxiety for the good of the Service. And when this Honble court are thus viewing my Conduct it will not I equally trust escape them to appreciate the Testimony of M[r] Air who whilst he admitted that he was not on good terms with me yet could not hesitate to say that I behaved as a good and brave Officer and made every exertion to repair the Cutters damage and get her round to engage the Schooner and that I was within Grape Shot of the Enemy.

Under these circumstances I cannot but indulge a confident hope that your decision will acquit me of Blame in this to me momentous crisis of my character and reputation as an officer.

Alarmed Sir & Gent[n] as I was as I observed to you in the outset least from the purport of any part of the Testimony already adduced the Court might entertain any Doubt of my Conduct I have in the interval you have so kindly allowed me to prepare for my Defence resorted to my Friend who instantly stept forward to help me explain it regardless of the inconvenience and interruption my unexpected call has given him. And I repeat my firmest reliance on your impartial Judgement as well as your kind and indulgent consideration—Conscious as I am that undaunted valour alone prevailed with me during the whole Action and that my not coming to Anchor but passing between the Enemy's Schooner & Sloop for the reasons stated was done to the best of my Judgement but in which if the Court should think I in the least erred they will not I hope condemn me—In your hands Sir and Gent[n] however as do all my Brave companions in Arms on this unfortunate occasion I now leave (with the same confidence which they do) all that is dear and valuable to me—in safer and better hands it cannot be—

Sharing as I do in the confidence so universally prevailing in the Navy of the strictest and most impartial Justice being always rendered at your Tribunals with a due regard to every circumstance which ought to weigh I rest myself in the hope of your acquittal and my Friend who assists me on this occasion would respectfully snatch this opportunity to express also his anxious hope that no unfortunate expression throughout this my explanation of my Conduct has in his Zeal to assist me at all escaped him and which in the slightest degree might offend or give the least umbrage to the Court assuring you most sincerely that it is painful to him at any time to do so and that he would on no Account be defective in acknowledging your Authority nor in personal respect and esteem to every one of yourselves or your highly respectable Judge Advocate any more than he would to the brave and honorable officer who conducts the prosecution of your Inquiry.

WILL^M HICKS Act^g Lieu^t

These are to certify the principal Officers and Commissioners of his Majesty's Navy, that M^r William Hicks, served as Master's Mate on board, His Majesty's Ship Milford, under my Command from the twelfth Day of October One Thousand Eight Hundred and nine, untill the third Day of August One Thousand Eight Hundred and ten, during which time he behaved with Diligence and Sobriety and was always obedient to Command, and I have pleasure in recommending him as a correct good Officer.

Given under my hand, on board His Majestys Ship Milford this third Day of August One Thousand Eight Hundred and ten

H. T. BAYNTUN Captain

These are to certify the Principal Officers & Commissioners of His Majesty's Navy that M^r William Hicks (Master's

Mate of His Majesty's Ship Milford) commanded a Mortar Boat under my Orders from the 5th day of September 1810, until the first day of March 1811 ; during which time he conducted himself with diligence & Sobriety, and most perfectly to my satisfaction, on every occasion, & shewed great gallantry in presence of the Enemy.

Given under my hand on board H.M. Sloop Watchful this 1st day of March 1811

THOMAS FELLOWES : Captain

Bay of Cadiz

Copy of a Letter from Major Hancock to Lieut Col[l] Williams at St Johns dated April 8th 1814.

My Dr Col[l]

I perceive with great regret that in the Gen[l] Order given out respecting the Affair at the Mill, the *services* of Lt Hicks of the *R N* are not mentioned. I can assure you that this officer from the moment of his Arrival off the mouth of the La Cole has been unremitting in his exertions for the good of the *Service*, as well previous to as during the Attack on the Mill, and to his activity and that of the Seaman belonging to the Sloop Broke and the Gun boat under his orders, we are indebted for the timely supply of ammunition and the Guns brought up by Lt Criswick—As this Latter Officer has been mentioned I can only atribute the omission of Lt Hicks to mistake, I would therefore feel infinitely obliged to you to take some steps towards doing justice to the zeal of a very excellent officer.

There is nothing new here

Yrs very truly

Signed) R B HANDCOCK

Lake Champlain—Defeat of Gen[l] Wilkinson's Army—I drove the Enemy's Dragoons & advance Troops coming round the Bodage or Lake Shore.

My Dear Sir

I have great pleasure in forwarding to you the following Extract of a letter from the Adj Gen[l] to L[t] Col Williams 13 Reg. "Your note of the omission of the Lieutenant of the Navy (Hicks) has been attended to in the duplicate of the Dispatches and it will be communicated to the Admiralty—"

Signed. Edw[d] Baynes
Adj Gen[l]

Wishing you soon here again I remain

yrs very sincerely
R B Handcock

September 12[th] 1814

Sir

I have the Honor to transmit to you the Proceedings of H M Cutter Finch during the Action of yesterday with the American Squadron, after the Verbal orders I reced from Capt[n] Downie yesterday Morning at 8 o clock on board the Confiance to take my Station to the Left of the Gun boats, to annoy the Schooner while the Division of Gun Boats carried the said Schooner and then for me to attack any one of their sloops that an opportunity offerd, 8.30 A M The Confiance and Linnet commenced action with the American Squadron ; in running to Leeward to take my Station after the Confiance had anchor'd and the Attention of her was intirely taking up by the American Ship and brig, at 9 the American sloop and Schooner commenced Firing, on me, nearly every shot from the Schooner, either cut away some of my rigging or huld me, I reserved my Fire till within ½ Gun shot, 9.20 Commenced Action on the American Schooner and Sloop, at the same time running towards the Sloop in hope of carrying her by Boarding, which I was confident could be done, 9.45 within Pistol Shot of the sloop ; she sliped her Cable and run in towards Plattsburg, still keeping a heavy Fire on her and the Schooner, 10.5 the Carpenters Mate told

me that their was about 3½ Feet of Water in the Hold, hand constantly Pumping, she have reced five shot under water mark—Fore stay cut away—Main boom nearly cut through Mainmast badly wounded, and nearly all my running rigging cut away—the wind shifting & variable—and close to a Reef on Hospital Island I immediately when I found I could not wether the Reef attempted to Tack her but she missed stays twice—still the schooner & sloop keeping a heavy raking Fire on me, which was allwas returned when we fell off. I then supposed I had room to wear, I immediately put my helm up, and when nearly round she unfortunately took the Ground, at the same time two Field pieces opend on me with Round & Grape within Pistol Shot from Hospital Island. I then got my Larboard Quarter Guns to bear on them and had the pleasure soon to drive them from their Guns. their shot striking my hull every time. the Schooners starboard Quarter Guns keeping up a heavy fire on me, 11.30 observed the Confiance surrender 11.45 observed the Linnet surrender, 11.48 got my small Bower Anchor out Astern, and tryed every effort to get afloat, and the same time hove four of my 18^{lb} Cannonades overboard and a Quantity of Ballast, the Water gaining on me Fast from the Number of shot holes between wind & water and others under water, at 12 I found it was impossible to do any more I sent for my petty Officers & Seamen, and they all found that it was impossible to get her afloat or me to do more, I am confident if I had been so fortunately to get her afloat and in deep water she must have sunk 12.15 with great Reluctance and Regret I order'd the Colors to be hauld down, from the state the Cutter was in I am confident she will not be any use to the Enemy, I have to Recommend to your notice the steady and gallant behaviour of M^{r}. Air Mid. likewise my Petty Officers and seamen, non Commissioned Officer & Private of Marines for their steady and cool behaviour during the Action, likewise the List of my wounded Viz^{t} Richd Vaskey, Seaman, severely wounded,

and John Brown Marine Dangerously Wounded—I contribute my small loss on account of the Enemy's Firing so low, I have mentioned to you the correct account of the Loss of the Finch.

I have the Honor to be
With Great Respect
Your humble servant
WILL[M] HICKS, Lieu[t]

To Captain D Pring
Royal Navy

Endorsed: L[t] Hicks to Cap[n] Pring
12[th] Sep[r]

Copy U S Brig Eagle 12[th] September 1814
Sir,

I have the painful task of giving a statement of my loss which occasioned my striking so soon after our attack on the enemy's line: when getting near enough for the Carronades to reach the Eagle the vessel I had orders to engage in support of the Linnet under your Command before I could chuse a good situation for anchoring my peak and Throat Halliards with the Fore stay were shot away this obliged me to let go an Anchor in the way of the ship and Brigs Fire we suffered so much from the gauling fire of the latter that it obliged me to strike for humanity sake alone, my loss is Considerable six men killed and Sixteen wounded.

Sir
I have the honor to be
Your most obedient Serv[t]
JAMES M[c]GHIE Lieu[t]
Com[g] H M Cutter Chub

To Captain Pring R N
&c &c

PS. Amongst the rest I had the misfortune to be wounded

shortly after my leaving the Deck my Cutter struck Mr Bodell Midshipman at this time had Command of the Deck.

J Mc G.

A True Copy D. Pring, Comr / William Drew Lt } Witnesses

Endorsed : Lt McGhie to Capn Pring 12th Sepr

NARRATIVE DOCUMENTS

GROUP XII

THE END OF THE WAR, 1814–1815

NARRATIVE DOCUMENTS

GROUP XII

THE END OF THE WAR, 1814–1815

Archives, C. 38, p. 84.

EXTRACT from a Letter to Lieu[t] Gen[l] Drummond Commanding in Upper Canada—

Head Quarters Chambly
21[st] June 1814.

The Commanding Royal Engineer has received Instructions to examine and report on M[r] Sheck's plan for rendering the passage of the Mille Roches Rapids more secure and for improving the different Passes in the Rapids at the Moulinette and through the Longue Sault;—Lieut Col: Hughes is to do so, on his way to Prescott where he is ordered to proceed for the purpose of inspecting Fort Wellington, the late L[t] Col: Bruyeres had given his opinion this Spring that nothing could be done in this Service during the present Season, but that whatever improvement might be deemed expedient should be commenced when the Waters are low the ensuing Autumn—

I have &c
(Signed) NOAH FREER
Military Secretary

A true Extract
NOAH FREER
Mil[y] Sec[ry]

Archives, C. 1172, p. 30.

Head Quarters Kingston—
15th October 1814.

G.O.

The Right and Center Divisions constitute a Corps D'Armée under the immediate Command of Lieutenant General Drummond.—

A Deputy Quarter Master and Adjut[t] General are placed under the immediate orders of each General of Division.—

A Major of Brigade and Deputy Assistant Quarter Master General are to be attached to the Staff of the General or Officer Commanding a Brigade.—

An Assistant Quarter Master and Adjutant General are placed under the immediate Orders of each General of division.—

When a General Officer is not present with a Brigade— It is to be placed under the Command of the Senior Regimental Field Officer, who will resign the Command of his Battalion to the next Senior Officer of the Corps.—

The Right Division will be organized into one or more Brigades as the Lieut[t] Gen[l] may find expedient to direct.—

The Troops on the Line of communication between the Lower Province and Brockville inclusive are to constitute one Brigade.—Kingston and its Dependencies including Gannanoquai to constitute a Brigade.—

Colonel Grant 70th Regiment is appointed to Command the Brigade on the Line of Communication.—

Colonel Cameron 9th Regiment to Command the Brigade at Kingston.—

Officers succeeding to the Command of Brigades in the Consequence of the absence of General Officers, are not Authorized to assume the Rank and Title of Bragadier Generals but are to receive the allowances granted to

Commanding Officers when removed from their Corps to discharge more important duties.—

The Assistants & Provost Martials in this Command are to receive Pay & Allowances as Ensigns in the Army with Forage for one Horse.—

Lawrence Grame Gent has the Commander of the Forces permission to Join the 89th Regt as a Volunteer.—

Archives, C. 38, p. 88.

From Commissary-General Robinson at Montreal to Prevost at ——.

Montreal 14th November, 1814

Sir,

The difficulties experienced in the transport of Stores and Provisions during the last Season for the construction, armament, and equipment of His Majesty's Ships on Lake Ontario, and for the Supply of the Troops in Upper Canada imperiously demand that means be promptly devised for a more certain conveyance of the innumerable Articles necessary for maintaining in that Province the great, and increasing, Naval and Military Force requisite for its defence.

The following remarks will shew the vast labor, sustained by the Inhabitants of Lower Canada, and the necessity of lessening that labor as far as shall be found practicable.

The Cartage from Montreal to La Chine, from the great extent of it is extremely burthensome. Not less than from fifteen to Eighteen thousand Loads of Public Stores having this Season been carted to La Chine; a considerable part of them by Farmers ordered from a distance of several Leagues; to the great loss of their time and injury of their Farms.

The Bateau men for the Transport from La Chine to Kingston are ordered on Corvée from the Parishes, many of

them from a distance of 20 and 30 Leagues from La Chine, who have been absent from their homes, owing to various causes of detention, forty days and upwards. The severity of this Service has induced many to refuse to obey the orders of their Officers, and others to desert from the Bateaus on the route; particularly of late, when not more than two thirds of the Number ordered have performed the Voyage. As it is the opinion of the Crown Lawyer that these Men cannot legally be convicted and punished for their disobedience, it is evident on what precarious footing the Transport Service Stands.

To render the transportation to Upper Canada less difficult, and thereby save a great part of the labor at present engaged in it, it is to be wished that Measures may be taken for loaded Bateaus to go from Montreal to Fort Wellington and there deliver their loading into Boats, or Vessels, of a Larger Size, navigated by proportionably fewer hands, to be taken to Kingston.

To effect this great improvement in the Navigation considerable expence and labor must be employed—First, in making a Canal from Montreal to La Chine; and Secondly, by removing impediments at several Places in the River from the Cedars upward; which if accomplished the Transport from Montreal might be carried on, with ease, to much greater extent, by Bateaus to Fort Wellington in ten or twelve days; the Cartage to La Chine, which now amounts to five or six Thousand Pounds, would be saved, and the Farmers employed in it be left to their Agricultural pursuits.

By common observers it is thought, that the ground through which a Canal may be made between Montreal and La Chine (a distance of seven miles) is well adapted for the purpose, and that under a Scientific Director, acquainted with Canal Making in England (who should be immediately applied for from home) with the labor of as great a Number of Troops as can be employed to advantage, the work might

be accomplished in a short time, and that the Expence would be compensated by the saving of the Cartage, and a Toll which Merchants would readily pay for the passage of their Bateaus ; and hence a very great and permanent advantage be derived to the two Provinces.

The necessity of an amendment to the Law on which the Inhabitants are ordered on Corvée for the Public Service will appear evident when it be known that of those Commanded during the last three weeks, Two hundred and twenty have either refused to obey the orders of their Officers, or have deserted after appearing at La Chine to perform the duty.

With so many Examples before them passing with impunity it is rather to be wondered at, that any come forward to this arduous Service, more especially as at this time the Merchants give three times the Wages paid by Government, which till lately were considered to be very liberal ; and it is not without much difficulty that the Merchants can obtain Bateau men even at the Exorbitant Wages paid by them.

Although the Transport this year has by great exertion been effected to an extent which could not reasonably have been expected, it is not to be supposed that the increased demands for Supplies to Upper Canada can hereafter be complied with, unless the impediments in the Transport be removed ; or the means of obtaining the labor necessary, be rendered more certain ; either by an amendment of the Law by which Corvées are Ordered, or by establishing a Corps of Bateaumen of sufficient strength for this Service.— It is, however, very doubtful whether an adequate number of Capable Men could be engaged on terms that would be considered Moderate—Even if they are to be obtained at any rate.

The practicability of making a Canal between Montreal and La Chine should be immediately ascertained by Scientific Men, and the difference of Level of the Water of the S^{t} Lawrence at those Places taken, and an Estimate made of

the probable Expence to be incurred; for your Excellency's information.

It may be well to remark that the Ground through which a Canal would pass is private Property, and although the value of the Land be greatly increased thereby, the Proprietors might raise obstacles, unless compelled to a regulation by an Act of the Legislature for this Public Work.

Having thus exposed to your Excellency the difficulties which have occured in the Transport Service, and pointed out such remedies as appear to me essential; I have only to recommend the Subject to Your Excellency's early and serious consideration; for even with the facilities I propose it is a question whether the Army and Navy, at present in Upper Canada, can be regularly supplied with the requisite stores and Provisions—but under the present defective system I do not hesitate to assert that it is wholly impossible to support the Force in that Province; much less to provide the means of conveyance for all the Guns and Stores required in constructing more Ships, and for feeding additional Troops on an extended Line.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your Excellency's,
Most Obedient and
Most humble Servant
W. H. Robinson
Commissary General.

Archives, C. 1172, p. 62.

G.O. Montreal 14th Dec 1814.

A Resident Military Chaplain being Station'd at Montreal the Clerical Services of the Revd Dr Mountain to officiate as Chaplain to the Troops of that Garrison are dispensed with and his Appointment Cancelled from the 24th Inst.—

H. E. The Com[r] of the Forces is pleased to approve of three public Horses being allowed to each Regiment or Battalion for the conveyance of the Surgeon's Paniers, Intrenching Tools and Spare Ammunition, which is to be considered as the first and ostensible uses for which these Horses are allowed.—

His Excellency taking into consideration the Advantage and Comfort the Soldier may receive in many Situations from this Establishment is further pleased to sanction that a large Sleigh and double Harness, be allowed to each Battalion in Upper Canada; and two Single Traines, and Two Setts of Single Harness to each Battalion in the Lower province; as these Articles are meant to be of the plainest and most durable discription and solely for conveying Fuel, and Provisions in Quarters and for the purposes above Specified on a March;—

A Sum not exceeding £20 will be allowed each Battalion for the purpose.—

On the Breaking Up of the Winter Roads Instructions will be given for depositing these Articles of Equipment and the use of the pack Saddle will be resumed.—

An Allowance of £20 per Annum to be drawn Quarterly will be Allowed to each Battalion for Shoeing and Stabling of the above Horses Commencing from the 25[th] Inst.—

(Signed) Edward Baynes
Adjutant General
North America.

Archives, G. 57, p. 82.

From Bathurst in Downing Street to Drummond at ——.

Downing Street 10[th] Jan[y] 1815

Sir,

In taking the Command of His Majesty's Forces in Canada you will direct Your chief attention to maintaining an ascendency on the Lakes, more particularly on Lake Ontario.

You will therefore not fail to cooperate with Commodore Owen in whatever he may think most conducive to that important object; and you will not relax in these exertions untill you shall have been officially informed from Washington that the Ratifications have been duly exchanged.

Experience has however shewn that so long as the Enemy maintain their position at Sackett's Harbour, the advantages which they enjoy by having their resources at hand, are so great that it is very difficult successfully to rival the Exertions which they are enabled to make. If therefore the War shall continue you will direct as much of the force as you can collect together to act upon that point, and make that the chief object of Your Military Operations; if you see that there is reasonable ground to hope that by any attack which it is in your power to make the Harbour can be destroyed.

If Sir I. Sherbrooke shall require a reinforcement of Troops for any Special Service, you will forthwith Comply, with his demand to the Amount of Four Thousand Rank and File.

If by the due exchange of the Ratifications of the Treaty, peace shall be happily restored, you will not fail to make liberal presents to the Indian Nations who have cooperated with Us.

You are to use your utmost endeavours to induce them to conclude a pacification with the United States, on the Conditions secured to them by the Treaty.

On the receipt of the intellegence here of the Ratifications having been exchanged, I will take care that a Sufficient Number of Transports be sent out for the purpose of bringing back such of the Troops as will in that Case be recalled.

It is intended to grant Lands to a given number in each of the Regiments which are to be withdrawn, and you will be enabled to grant them their discharge. The same Advantage will in due time be extended to the Troops which will remain.

I shall not fail to furnish you with full Instructions on this subject; considering it necessary at present only to call your attention to it, that you may be prepared to select such persons as are most likely to become industrious Settlers. If any Officers are inclined to settle in the Canadas Land will be granted to them on the conditions to be hereafter detailed.

It is necessary further to Apprize You that on board of the Transports which are to go out for the Troops it is probable that many Settlers from Scotland and Ireland may take that opportunity of proceeding, it being the intention of His Royal Highness the Prince Regent to give them every encouragement and all reasonable assistance. It will probably be most adviseable to establish the Settlers principally in Upper Canada—

I have only to add that you will not in any case grant land to Subjects of the United States, and use your best endeavours to prevent their Settling in either of the Canadas until you shall hear further from me.

I have the Honor to be,
Sir
Your most obedient
Humble Servant
BATHURST

Archives, C. 687, p. 96.

From E. McDonell at Cornwall to Sir E. Beckwith at ——.

Cornwall, Feby. 4th 1815.

My dear Sir,

I yesterday saw our friend Jones. He left Sackett's on the 26th Ultimo, but could not cross the River till yesterday, on account of the floating ice.—

General Brown left S.H. on the 25 Ultimo to attend,

as an Evidence, at General Wilkinson's trial.—It is understood that he will repair from thence to Washington, from whence Commodore Chauncey is supposed to be on his return to his fleet, which Captain Jones commands in the interim—Colonel Brady commands the troops at the harbour, amounting to about four thousand regulars.—The Marines and Sailors amount in number to about two thousand.—The troops are all quartered in the forts and except a Sentry in front of each, have no outposts of any kind, nor even patroles—The Line of circumvallation & abbatis is entirely neglected & going to decay, the soldiers using some of it for fire wood and the people making roads thro' it—They do not appear to have any suspicion of the people who pass & repass.—

They have now two distinct Ship yards the old one at the point, where they have laid down one keel, and have 400 Carpenters with 200 Choppers and teamsters, & the new yard at Stores's harbour, about two miles and a half higher up the bay, where they have 300 Carpenters & 200 Choppers & teamsters—at this yard they have no Guard nor fortification of any kind.—

By pacing the length of these keels he thinks they are each 182 feet long each—several of the ribs are up, to make room for the workmen in the yard—the shipwrights say that they do not know whether they are intended for two or three deckers.

They are hewing out more keels in the woods—it is supposed for a frigate at each dock yard—but no one appears to know exactly except the Master Builder, & it is said that the Commodore has laid the strictest injunctions of secrecy upon them, as he is reported to have said that the British have hitherto got information of all his plans—Ackford builds at the Point & Brown at Stores's harbour.—

The general conjecture is that they are to be 3 deckers —to register 90 but to carry from 100 to 110 Guns—It is said

that the guns are still at New York, but that the Commodore will immediately on his return enter into contracts for bringing them on in sleighs—Report says that the Government have offered One thousand dollars per Gun—When our friend was at Albany (9th Jany) he heard Colonel Jenkins, the Dy Qr Mr General, say, that 64 of the guns were then in store there—There were no Anchors nor any other stores then there—Report, some little time before he came away, said that the keels which are now preparing in the wood were intended for steam frigates—but it is now thought otherwise—

The Report of boats building on the point opposite to the harbour, must have originated in the circumstance of a quantity of the ship timber being cut on that side, but the ice was not thought sufficiently strong to bring it over—The timber is supplied by the inhabitants who contract for it—The naval Officers say their Commodore does not wish to have a superior fleet to our's, but that he will keep pace with us in building—

The Ships are moored in a line from the point of the harbour towards Fort Pike—in the same position that they have been in ever since they came in to Port. The Anchor of the Superior lies on the Point—The Ships are all frozen in & are not to be cut out till the Gravelly Point Channel be frozen over—He could not ascertain whether they sent persons to examine that channel frequently—It is said that when it is frozen, they will, as last winter, cut them so loose every day as to swing round & will have patroles of seamen towards Horse Island & Point Peninsula—The Ships lie thus—Superior—Mohawk—Pike—Madison—Jones—Jefferson—the Schooners lie intermixed with the large vessels—The sailors live on board of their ships day & night—Most of the seamen have six months pay due to them—They were bringing provisions into the harbour—a few naval stores were arriving daily—a great many sleigh loads of lignum vitæ

in bulk had arrived—The great mass of the seamen appear to be coloured people—

Nothing is now spoken of respecting cutting off the communication, nor is there any report of General Izard's Army coming to the harbour—There is a report of General Izard having resigned—On the 10th of January our friend met about 1500 men of Izard's army from Buffaloe, between Utica & Albany—They had been at Genesee & then at Utica, & when he met them they did not know their destination, but expected they were intended for Castine, as the Governor of that state had offered to attack it with the Militia if supported by a sufficient number of regular troops—He has not since been able to learn what has become of this Column, but he thinks they kept the route towards Castine, tho some spoke of Plattsburg—

When at Utica he dined two days successively with General Dearborne—Izard, Lewis & Porter & the other members of the Court Martial—They all seemed to think that if the conscription failed that their Campaign would be defensive—Captain Eaton the biscuit contractor came to Utica from the harbour on his way to Buffaloe to procure 10,000 barrels of biscuit on that route, to be delivered at, or near, the harbour,—but after conversing with General Dearborn he returned direct to Albany to receive further orders—It was supposed the failure of the prospect of the conscription was the cause of his sudden change of route—The Officers of Militia have not received any orders to prepare for the conscription—

The road to Gravelly Point is not opened, but probably the bordage is good everywhere round to the harbour—

He met the Officer of our Navy who deserted lately, at a Ball in Denmark—in his British uniform he said he was on his way to some friends he had at New York—He had been ordered away from the harbour—

It is thought that ere this the Congress has passed a

general Nonintercourse law, which will prevent all supplies of beef &c, as the Customs house officers are authorized by it to seize, with impunity, every thing approaching the frontier—

I have directed him to make minute inquiry into the marine preparations & to the probable movements of the Army, & for this purpose to remain some days at the harbour—

He has been lately held to bail in the sum of 10,000 dollars,—he supposes on some fictitious plea, to induce him to give up suits he has instituted with others against Military Officers for an illegal Arrest by General Pike when Commanding at Sacket's—He does not think it is on the score of giving information, as the process would have come thro' another Court—

I have the honour to be my dear Sir
Yours faithfully E Macdonell

TREATY OF PEACE AND AMITY BETWEEN HIS BRITANNIC MAJESTY & THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Concluded December 24, 1814, *Ratifications Exchanged February* 17, 1815
Proclaimed February 18, 1815

HIS Britannic Majesty and the United States of America, desirous of terminating the War which has unhappily subsisted between the two countries, and of restoring, upon principles of perfect reciprocity, peace, friendship, and good understanding between them, have for that purpose appointed their respective Plenipotentiaries, that is to say, His Britannic Majesty on His part has appointed the Right Honourable James Lord Gambier, late Admiral of the White, now Admiral of the Red Squadron of His Majesty's Fleet; Henry Goulburn, Esq. a Member of the Imperial Parliament, and Under Secretary of State; and William Adams, Esq. Doctor of Civil Laws—And the President of the United States, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate thereof, has appointed John Quincey Adams, James A. Bayard, Henry Clay, Jonathan Russell, and Albert Gallatin, Citizens of the United States; who after a reciprocal communication of their respective full powers, have agreed upon the following Articles :—

ARTICLE I.

There shall be a firm and universal Peace between His Britannic Majesty and the United States, and between their respective countries, territories, cities, towns and people, of every degree, without exception of places or persons. All hostilities both by sea and land shall cease, as soon as this Treaty shall have been ratified by both parties as hereinafter mentioned. All territory, places, and possessions whatsoever, taken by either party from the other during the

war, or which may be taken after the signing of this Treaty, excepting only the islands hereinafter mentioned, shall be restored without delay, and without causing any destruction, or carrying away any of the artillery, or other public property, originally captured in the said forts or places, and which shall remain therein upon the exchange of the Ratifications of this Treaty, or any slaves or other private property. And all archives, records, deeds, and papers, either of a public nature, or belonging to private persons, which in the course of the war may have fallen into the hands of the officers of either party, shall be, as far as may be practicable, forthwith restored, and delivered to the proper authorities and persons to whom they respectively belong.

Such of the Islands in the Bay of Passamaquoddy as are claimed by both parties, shall remain in the possession of the party in whose occupation they may be at the time of the exchange of the ratifications of this Treaty, until the decision respecting the title to the said Islands shall have been made, in conformity with the Fourth Article of this Treaty.

No disposition made by this Treaty, as to such possession of the islands and territories claimed by both parties, shall in any manner whatever be construed to affect the right of either.

ARTICLE II.

Immediately after the ratifications of this Treaty by both parties as herein after-mentioned, orders shall be sent to the armies, squadrons, officers, subjects and citizens of the two powers, to cease from all hostilities. And to prevent all causes of complaint, which might arise on account of the prizes which may be taken at sea after the said ratifications of this Treaty, it is reciprocally agreed, that all vessels and effects which may be taken after the space of twelve days from the said ratifications upon all parts of the coast of North

America, from the latitude of 23 degrees north, to the latitude of 50 degrees north, and as far eastward in the Atlantic Ocean, as the 36th degree of west longitude from the meridian of Greenwich, shall be restored on each side; that the time shall be thirty days in all other parts of the Atlantic Ocean north of the equinoctial line or equator, and the same time for the British and Irish Channels, for the Gulf of Mexico, and all parts of the West Indies; forty days for the North Seas, for the Baltic, and for all parts of the Mediterranean; sixty days for the Atlantic Ocean, south of the equator, as far as the latitude of the Cape of Good Hope; ninety days for every other part of the world south of the equator; and one hundred and twenty days for all other parts of the world without exception.

ARTICLE III.

All prisoners of war taken on either side as well by land as by sea, shall be restored as soon as practicable after the ratifications of this Treaty as herein after-mentioned, on their paying the debts which they may have contracted during their captivity. The two contracting parties respectively engage to discharge in specie the advances which may have been made by the other for the sustenance and maintenance of such prisoners.

ARTICLE IV.

Whereas it was stipulated by the 2d Article in the Treaty of Peace of 1783, between His Britannic Majesty and the United States of America, that the boundary of the United States should comprehend "all Islands within twenty "leagues of any part of the shores of the United States, and "lying between lines to be drawn due east from the points

"where the aforesaid boundaries, between Nova Scotia on "the one part, and East Florida on the other, shall respectively "touch the Bay of Fundy and the Atlantic Ocean, excepting "such Islands as now are, or heretofore have been within "the limits of Nova Scotia;" And whereas the several Islands in the Bay of Passamaquoddy, which is part of the Bay of Fundy, and the Island of Grand Menan, in the said Bay of Fundy, are claimed by the United States, as being comprehended within their aforesaid boundaries, which said Islands are claimed as belonging to His Britannic Majesty, as having been at the time of, and previous to the aforesaid Treaty of 1783, within the limits of the province of Nova Scotia; in order, therefore, finally, to decide upon these claims, it is agreed that they shall be referred to two Commissioners, to be appointed in the following manner, viz.:— One Commissioner shall be appointed by His Britannic Majesty, and one by the President of the United States, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate thereof; and the said two Commissioners so appointed, shall be sworn impartially to examine and decide upon the said claims, according to such evidence as shall be laid before them on the part of His Britannic Majesty and of the United States respectively. The said Commissioners shall meet at St. Andrews, in the Province of New Brunswic, and shall have power to adjourn to such other place or places as they shall think fit. The said Commissioners shall by a declaration or report under their hands and seals, decide to which of the two Contracting Parties the several Islands aforesaid do respectively belong, in conformity with the true intent of the said Treaty of Peace of 1783: and if the said Commissioners shall agree in their decision, both parties shall consider such decision as final and conclusive.

It is further agreed, that in the event of the two Commissioners differing upon all or any of the matters so referred to them, or in the event of both or either of the said Com-

missioners refusing or declining, or wilfully omitting to act as such, they shall make jointly or separately, report or reports, as well to the Government of His Britannic Majesty, as to that of the United States, stating in detail the points on which they differ, and the grounds upon which their respective opinions have been formed, or the grounds upon which they, or either of them, have so refused, declined, or omitted to act. And His Britannic Majesty and the Government of the United States hereby agree to refer the report or reports of the said Commissioners to some friendly sovereign or state, to be then named for that purpose, and who shall be requested to decide on the differences which may be stated in the said report or reports, or upon the report of one commissioner, together with the grounds upon which the other Commissioner shall have refused, declined or omitted to act, as the case may be. And if the Commissioner so refusing, declining or omitting to act, shall also wilfully omit to state the grounds upon which he has so done, in such manner that the said statement may be referred to such friendly sovereign or state, together with the report of such other Commissioner, then such sovereign or state shall decide, ex parte, upon the said report alone, and His Britannic Majesty, and the Government of the United States engage to consider the decision of such friendly sovereign or state, to be final and conclusive on all the matters so referred.

ARTICLE V.

Whereas neither that point of the Highlands lying due north from the source of the river St. Croix, designated in the former Treaty of Peace between the two powers as the north-west angle of Nova Scotia, nor the north-westernmost head of Connecticut River have yet been ascertained; and whereas that part of the boundary line between the dominions

of the two powers, which extends from the source of the river St. Croix, directly north to the above mentioned north-west angle of Nova Scotia, thence along the said Highlands which divide those rivers, that empty themselves into the river St. Lawrence, from those which fall into the Atlantic Ocean to the north-westernmost head of Connecticut river, thence down along the middle of that river to the 45th degree of north latitude, thence by a line due west on said latitude until it strikes the river Iroquois or Cataraguy, has not yet been surveyed, it is agreed that for these several purposes, two Commissioners shall be appointed, sworn and authorized, to act exactly in the manner directed with respect to those mentioned in the next preceding article, unless otherwise specified in the present article. The said Commissioners shall meet at St. Andrews, in the province of New Brunswic, and shall have power to adjourn to such other place or places as they shall think fit. The said commissioners shall have power to ascertain and determine the points above mentioned, in conformity with the provisions of the said Treaty of Peace of 1783; and shall cause the boundary aforesaid, from the source of the river St. Croix to the river Iroquois or Cataraguy to be surveyed and marked according to the said provisions; the said commissioners shall make a map of the said boundary, and annex to it a declaration under their hands and seals, certifying it to be the true map of the said boundary, and particularizing the latitude and longitude of the north-west angle of Nova Scotia, of the north-westernmost head of Connecticut river, and of such other points of the said boundary as they may deem proper. And both parties agree to consider such map and declaration as finally and conclusively fixing the said boundary. And in the event of the said two commissioners differing, or both, or either of them, refusing, declining or wilfully omitting to act, such reports, declarations or statements shall be made by them or either of them, and such reference to a friendly sovereign or state shall

be made in all respects, as in the latter part of the fourth article is contained, and in as full a manner as if the same was herein repeated.

ARTICLE VI.

Whereas by the former Treaty of Peace, that portion of the boundary of the United States from the point where the 45th degree of north latitude strikes the river Iroquois or Cataraguy, to the Lake Superior, was declared to be "along "the middle of said river into Lake Ontario, through the "middle of said Lake, until it strikes the communication "by water between that Lake and Lake Erie, thence along "the middle of said communication into Lake Erie, through "the middle of said Lake, until it arrives at the water com-"munication into the Lake Huron, thence through the "middle of said Lake to the water communication between "that Lake and Lake Superior;" And whereas doubts have arisen what was the middle of the said River, Lakes, and Water Communications, and whether certain Islands lying in the same were within the dominions of His Britannic Majesty or of the United States. In order therefore, finally to decide these doubts, they shall be referred to two Commissioners, to be appointed, sworn, and authorised, to act exactly in the manner directed with respect to those mentioned in the next preceding article, unless otherwise specified in this present article. The said Commissioners shall meet in the first instance, at Albany, in the state of New York, and shall have power to adjourn to such other place or places as they shall think fit. The said Commissioners shall, by a report or declaration, under their hands and seals, designate the boundary through the said river, lakes, and water communications, and decide to which of the two Contracting Parties the several Islands lying within the said rivers, lakes, and water communications, do respectively belong, in conformity with the true intent of the said Treaty of 1783. And

both parties agree to consider such designation and decision as final and conclusive. And in the event of the said two Commissioners differing, or both or either of them refusing, declining, or wilfully omitting to act, such reports, declarations, or statements, shall be made by them, or either of them, and such reference to a friendly sovereign or state shall be made, in all respects, as in the latter part of the fourth article is contained, and in as full a manner as if the same was herein repeated.

ARTICLE VII.

It is further agreed, that the said two last mentioned Commissioners, after they shall have executed the duties assigned to them in the preceding article, shall be, and they are hereby authorised upon their oaths, impartially to fix and determine, according to the true intent of the said Treaty of Peace of 1783, that part of the boundary between the dominions of the two Powers, which extends from the water communication between Lake Huron and Lake Superior, to the most north western point of the Lake of the Woods; to decide to which of the two Parties the several Islands lying in the lakes, water communications and rivers forming the said boundary, do respectively belong, in conformity with the true intent of the said Treaty of Peace of 1783, and to cause such parts of the said boundary as require it, to be surveyed and marked. The said commissioners shall by a report or declaration, under their hands and seals, designate the boundary aforesaid, state their decision on the points thus referred to them, and particularize the latitude and longitude of the most north-western point of the lake, of the woods, and of such other parts of the said boundary as they may deem proper. And both parties agree to consider such designation and decision as final and conclusive. And in the event of the said two Commissioners differing or both, or either

of them, refusing, declining, or wilfully omitting to act, such reports, declarations, or statements, shall be made by them, or either of them, and such reference to a friendly sovereign or state shall be made in all respects as in the latter part of the fourth article is contained, and in as full a manner as if the same was herein repeated.

ARTICLE VIII.

The several boards of two Commissioners mentioned in the four preceding articles shall respectively have power to appoint a secretary, and to employ such surveyors or other persons as they shall judge necessary. Duplicates of all their respective reports, declarations, statements, and decisions, and of their accounts, and of the journal of their proceedings, shall be delivered by them to the agents of His Britannic Majesty, and to the agents of the United States who may be respectively appointed and authorized to manage the business on behalf of their respective governments. The said Commissioners shall be respectively paid in such manner as shall be agreed between the two contracting parties, such agreement being to be settled at the time of the exchange of the ratifications of this Treaty. And all other expences attending the said commissions shall be defrayed equally by the two parties. And in the case of death, sickness, resignation, or necessary absence, the place of every such Commissioner respectively, shall be supplied in the same manner as such Commissioner was first appointed, and the new Commissioner shall take the same oath or affirmation, and do the same duties.

It is further agreed between the two contracting parties, that in case any of the islands mentioned in any of the preceding articles which were in the possession of one of the parties prior to the commencement of the present war between the two countries, should, by the decision of any of the boards of Commissioners aforesaid, or of the sovereign

or state so referred to as in the four next preceding articles contained, fall within the dominions of the other party, all grants of land made previous to the commencement of the war by the party having had such possession, shall be as valid as if such island or islands, had by such decision or decisions, been adjudged to be within the dominions of the party having had such possession.

ARTICLE IX.

The United States of America engage to put an end, immediately after the ratification of the present Treaty, to hostilities with all the tribes or nations of Indians with whom they may be at war at the time of such ratification, and forthwith to restore to such tribes or nations respectively, all the possessions, rights and privileges which they may have enjoyed, or been entitled to in 1811, previous to such hostilities. Provided always, that such tribes or nations shall agree to desist from all hostilities against the United States of America, their citizens and subjects, upon the ratification of the present Treaty being notified to such tribes or nations, and shall so desist accordingly.

And His Britannic Majesty engages on His part, to put an end immediately after the ratification of the present Treaty, to hostilities with all the tribes or nations of Indians with whom he may be at war at the time of such ratification, and forthwith to restore to such tribes or nations respectively, all the possessions, rights, and privileges, which they may have enjoyed or been entitled to in 1811, previous to such hostilities. Provided always, that such tribes or nations shall agree to desist from all hostilities against His Britannic Majesty and his subjects, upon the ratification of the present Treaty being notified to such tribes or nations, and shall so desist accordingly.

ARTICLE X.

Whereas the traffic in slaves is irreconcilable with the principles of humanity and justice, and whereas both His Majesty and the United States are desirous of continuing their efforts to promote it's entire abolition, it is hereby agreed that both the contracting parties shall use their best endeavours to accomplish so desirable an object.

ARTICLE XI.

This Treaty, when the same shall have been ratified on both sides without alteration by either of the Contracting Parties, and the ratifications mutually exchanged, shall be binding on both parties, and the ratifications shall be exchanged at Washington, in the space of four months from this day, or sooner if practicable.

In faith whereof, we the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed this Treaty, and have thereunto affixed our seals.

Done in triplicate at Ghent, the twenty-fourth day of December, one thousand eight hundred and fourteen.

(L.S.) GAMBIER.
(L.S.) H. GOULBURN.
(L.S.) WM. ADAMS.
(L.S.) JOHN QUINCEY ADAMS.
(L.S.) J. A. BAYARD.
(L.S.) H. CLAY.
(L.S.) JON. RUSSELL.
(L.S.) ALBERT GALLATIN.

Archives, C. 687, p. 203.

From Monroe at Department of War to Brigadier General Duncan M^c^Arthur commanding 8th U.S. Military District 11 March. 1815.

[Endorsement.] Copy of a letter from the Secretary of War to Gen^l^ M^c^Arthur dated 11^th^ March 1815 and enclosed to me.

(Signed)
A. Butler
Co^l^ 2^d^ Riflemen.

(Copy) Department of War.
March 11^th.^ 1815

Sir

I had the honor to enclose you a Copy of the Treaty of Peace signed on the 24^th^ dec^br^ at Ghent by the Commissioners on the part of the United States and Great Britain—The first article of this Treaty stipulates that " all Territories, Places and Possessions whatsoever taken from either Party by the other during the War, or which may be taken after the signing of the Treaty, except only the Islands hereinafter mentioned shall be restored without delay and without causing any destruction or carrying away any of the Artillery or other public property originally captured in the said Forts or Places and which shall remain therein upon the exchange of the Ratifications of this Treaty, or any Slaves or other private property, and all the Archives, Records, Deeds and Papers either of a public nature or belonging to private persons which in the course of the War may have fallen into the hands of the officers of either party, shall be as far as may be practicable forthwith restored and delivered to the proper Authorities and Persons to whom they respectively belong."

You are charged with the execution of these stipulations

on the part of the United States so far as they may respect your Military District, of which you will advise the Officer Commanding his Britannic Majesty's forces in Upper Canada, and you will appoint such officers as you may confide in, to receive and deliver up *simultaneously* all such forts and Places as are stipulated by the Treaty to be delivered up by either party and also receive and make all other necessary arrangements respecting the Slaves and other private property as well as deeds, papers records &c which are to be mutually restored

I have the honor to be &c
(Signed)
JAMES MONROE.

Archives, C. 687, p. 229.

MEMOIRE delivered to Sir George Prevost at Quebec March 28 1815, at his particular request on M^r^ M^c^Gillivray's expressing strong apprehensions the Frontier would not be properly established on the Troops being removed from Michilimakinac.—

The unfortunate Cession of the Fort and Island of Michilimakinac to the United States by the late Treaty bids fair in its consequences to cut off our Intercourse with all the Southern and Western Indians—for the Americans aware (from the circumstances of the late War) of the influence established by means of the Trade carried on by Canadian Merchants and their Agents resident among the Indians, will naturally use every means to prevent a recurrance of this influence, by which alone in any future contest between the two countries, the friendship of the Indian Nations must be determined—and experience has shewn how much the safety of Upper Canada depends upon that friendship—With a view to these considerations the Question now is, in what

manner are we to avail ourselves of our remaining influence for although it will be extremely difficult, if at all practicable, to persuade the Indians that Government have not at the Peace broken faith with, and left them, in the Power of their implacable enemies—Still there must be a remaining attachment, which in good policy we ought to cultivate and improve—to do this, it appears Essential that some trade should be carried on with them from Canada, and that a respectable Military Post should be established on the Frontier—at which Post the different Nations should receive liberal Presents of Merchandize annually from the Commanding Officer on the Station—On negociating a Commercial Treaty with the United States, as they have much to ask for, it is still in the Power of Government to make some Stipulation by which British Subjects may be permitted to carry on Trade from Canada to the Mississipi and Mississourie, by way of Michilimakinac, and for relieving the said Trade from at least a part of the present duties, which amount to about 30 ℔ Cent on all Goods Imported into the United States and Indian Country, and which of itself if continued would operate as a prohibition—The protecting such a Trade connected with a respectable Military Post on the Frontier would still prevent the Americans from ever alienating the minds of the Indians—

To obtain this desirable object I am of Opinion that the Fort should be built immediately on the Line of Boundary and as near to Michilimakinac as may be found practicable both for the purpose of contrasting its rising importance with that place—and as affording a greater facility to the Indians coming from the Borders of the Mississipi and distant Countries to the Southward—And here also the Merchants and Traders would construct Buildings and Stores for carrying on their Trade—The Village of Michilimakinac would consequently dwindle away in a few Years—and that place would lose much of its importance in the eyes of the Natives.

The Officers of Engineers who have visited the Upper

Countries were divided in their choice between the place I allude to that is the high Islands near the *Detour* forming one side of that Strait through which the Boundary Line must run, and St. Maries on the entrance of Lake Superior—No one ever considered St Josephs as an Eligible Situation—St. Maries, 'tis true, has the advantage of being more pleasantly situated, part of the Country being under cultivation, and having a certain and plentiful Fishery almost at all Seasons of the Year—it would afford also a greater protection to the North West Trade, now unfortunately the only Fur Trade remaining to Canada—but these advantages I conceive to be more than overbalanced by the Station at the Detour, being 50 Miles nearer to Michilimakina, and also so much the nearer to the Indians whose friendship it is the present object of Government to secure—Besides a Subaltern's detachment might be Stationed at or near St Maries—indeed, I think it would be necessary, in keeping open the Communication with Lake Superior, and adding to the Importance of the British Frontier—Our Frontier Garrison should never have less than 150 men, and the officer in Command should, independent of his Military Rank, be of a Character that would insure him the respect both of the Traders and Indians—for he must needs frequently act from discretion and he is always considered the Representative of His Majesty and the Commander in chief of the Forces—His situation is attended with a certain Expense, arising from being under a necessity of keeping a Table in the open Season—for which an allowance should be attached to the command.—

In the Year 1796, when in consequence of Jay's Treaty Michilimakinac and the other Frontier Posts were given up to the United States.—As Government was doubtful whether the Island of St Josephs might not be claimed by the United States, being nearer to the Southern than Northern Shore, it was Ordered to be taken possession of by a party from the Garrison of Michilimakinac, before the Amerians could

arrive. Captain Brice of the Engineers was sent up by the Ottawa River in Mr McGillivray's Canoe with orders from Lord Dorchester to Examine the Country between Michilimakinac and St Maries, and report on the most Eligible situation for Building a Fort to serve as a Frontier Post—In the mean time a Stockade was erected on St Josephs and subsequently a Block House.—It became therefore by mere accident the Frontier Station without its ever having been so intended by Government to be such in the first instance, or in any manner fitted for it—St Josephs is a very fine Island about 27 Miles in length—one of a numerous group, which lie in the Straits separating Lake Huron from Lake Superior.—It is well fitted for cultivation but very unfit for a Military Station—

If the number of men recommended should be considered too Great on Account of the quantity of Provisions they will require it is to be observed that the Settlements of Sandwich, the River Thames and on the River St Clair, afford Flour and Pork cheaper than they can be purchased in Lower Canada, and the Government Vessels, which must necessarily be kept on Lake Erie, can with little trouble transport whatever quantity may be found necessary—

Your Excellency requested me to put my ideas to paper on the most Eligible station for a New Establishment on the distant Frontier—I shall be happy if my suggestions can be of any use—they are founded on observation and a long Experience.—

I have the honor to be
&c &c &c
W. McGillivray

Archives, C. 687, p. 199.

[Endorsement]
Warrant for the restitution of all Territory Places and Possessions taken from the United States during the War

To Our Trusty and Wellbeloved Lieutenant General Sir Gordon Drummond Knight Commander of the Most Honorable Military Order of the Bath Commander of our Forces in the Provinces of Upper Canada and Lower Canada respectively or in his absence to the Commander of our Forces in the said Provinces for the time being.

In the Name and on the behalf of His Majesty

SEAL. GEORGE P. R.

Trusty and Wellbeloved We Greet you well Whereas a Treaty of Peace and Amity was signed at Ghent on the twenty-fourth day of December 1814 between the Plenipotentiaries respectively appointed on the part of His Britannic Majesty and the United States of America the Ratifications of which Treaty were duly exchanged at Washington on the seventeenth day of February last. And Whereas it is stipulated in the first Article of the said Treaty that all Territory Places and Possessions whatsoever taken by either Party from the other during the War or which might be taken after the signing of the Treaty shall be restored without delay excepting only such Islands in the Bay of Passamaquoddy as are claimed by both Parties which are to remain in the possession of the Party in whose occupation they might be at the time of the Exchange of the Ratifications until the decision respecting the Title to the said Islands

shall have been made in conformity with the fourth Article of the said Treaty. Our Will and Pleasure is that you do in pursuance of the stipulation above recited deliver or cause to be delivered to such Persons as shall be Named or Authorized on the part of the United States to receive the same, all Territory Places and Possessions whatever taken from the said United States during the War or after the Signature of the Treaty except the said Islands in the Bay of Passamaquoddy without causing any destruction or carrying away any of the Artillery or other Public property originally captured in the said Forts or Places and which remained therein upon the exchange of the Ratifications of the Treaty. And for so doing this shall be Your Warrant.

Given at Our Court at Carlton House the fifth day of April 1815 in the Fifty fifth Year of Our Reign.

By the Command of His Royal Highness
The Prince Regent in the Name and on
the behalf of His Majesty

BATHURST.

Archives, C. 688, p. 37.

From McDouall at Michilimackinac to Forster at ——.

Michilimackinac 15th May 1815.

Sir

Your dispatch of the 11th of March, containing, for us, the highly important intelligence of Peace being concluded between Great Britain & the United States of America, reached me at this place on the eleventh of this Month!!——

By it, for the *first time*, I was enabled to peruse the treaty at full length.—It is to me a matter of great regret that I did not receive it sooner, as I have, till now, been in doubt as to several matters of much dilicasy & importance. I

leave you to judge whether the Indian Department at *York* entrusted *such* a dispatch to *proper hands*, when I inform you, that the Persons who took down my Letters in March left that place Thirty days *after* their departure, & arrived here two days before them! In addition to other inconveniences, such a shameful & unprecedented delay might have occassioned, (& may have, for what I yet know) the loss of many lives.

My perplexity is as great as ever, as to the order, sent me thro' L^t^ Col Harvey, to give up Fort M^c^Kay & the Prairie des Chiens, to the Americains, as the ninth article of the Treaty affords the most clear & circumstantial evidence, that the great extent of Country upon the Mississippi, so shamefully seized upon, by the Americains in *June last*, & from which they were expelled in the ensuing month, reverts again to the Indians, as it is expressly stipulated that they are restored to all the possessions, rights & priveleges, which they enjoyed in 1811. My instructions & the treaty itself being at such variance, together with the indispensable necessity of withdrawing the Garrison of Fort M^c^Kay, so critically situated, I have after mature deliberation, directed Captain Bulger to act, agreeable to the instructions herewith enclosed.

I also see with much pain (from this first sight of the treaty) that it will be a very difficult, if not an impossible matter, to fix upon an eligible situation for a new Post, untill the Commissioners have decided whether certain Islands in the vicinity of the boundary line, *are within the dominions of His Brittanic Majesty or of the United States*.—I have not the smallest doubt, from the usual arrogance & unblushing impudence of the latter Gov^t^ that *every effort* will be made by them to grasp what they can, that both S^t^ Josephs, & the large Island close to the Detour, (the most westerly of the Manitoualian Islands,) which appeared to me very eligible for a new Post, & apparently possessing the rare recommendation

of a good harbour will be claimed by them, & that at least a year will elapse before they come to a determination.

I also cannot disguise my fears, judging from what has past, that the places alluded to, will also be given up. *If so, it will retire us out of the reach of the Indians altogether, & give the finishing blow to whatever influence we yet possess amongst them.* I conceive it to be of the utmost consequence, that His Majestys Government, should be early apprized of this important circumstance. The surrender of *this* most important Island, the key to the whole Western Country, & which they fully expected would have been retained by us, if followed up by that of S^{t} Josephs, and the adjoining Islands, will be *to them*, such conclusive proofs of our disgrace, & absolute submission to the Americain Government, that it would be most grossly deceiving ours, to hold forth the expectation of being joined by a single Indian, in the event of another war.—Their neutrality is *then*, the utmost, perhaps, that we can hope for, & that is more to be desired than expected. Of this be assured, that a more terrible enemy exists not, than a numerous body of Indians, *properly managed & led on*, in such a Country as Upper Canada. Instead of the flattering promises which I was so lately instructed to make them, being realized, the whole Country is given up. A breach of faith, is with them an utter abomination & never forgotten. Dubious of our intentions *from past events*, they have in council, often alluded to the destruction of their fathers by Gen^{l} Wayne in 1795, under the very guns of our Fort on the Miami River, & that so far from being assisted, even the fugitives were refused admittance, to save them from the indiscriminate slaughter.—Such are their retentive memories as to real and supposed injurys. I leave you to judge what their reply will be, when solicited for their assistance hereafter.

I have taken every precaution to make known the news of Peace, and to put a stop to that predatory mode of warfare,

which they are continually waging against the Americains. To effect this *entirely* among so many tribes, having such cause to hate that people, need not be expected. The Gov^{t} of the United States, therefore, will soon have a fair pretext to glut their vengeance against them, & gradually to root them out. They will probably stop all Powder from going to the Mississippi (when they get this place) without which, these nations must perish in the winter: the slow but sure poison of their Whiskey Stills, will affect the rest, & in fifty years time, there perhaps will not be an Indian left, between this & the Rocky Mountains, to plague either party.

I visited the Ottaway Nation a few days ago & proclaimed the peace amongst them with the usual ceremonies. They received me with strong marks of attachment, & begged me to notice, & represent to their Great Father at Quebec, their advantageous settlement, the fertility of their fields & the comfort with which they lived.—I believe they *wish* to be a greater distance from this Americain Garrison, & to be in the vicinity of our new post, & yet are naturally loath to quit the pleasant abodes of their ancestors, where they are now so happy, for worse lands, yet uncleared, & in a colder climate. Still it is much to be desired.

L^{t} Worsley sailed for Fort Erie on the 8th inst. I wrote by him to Sir Geo Murray & also to Col Butler, Commanding at Detroit, a copy of which I enclose.

I find that the greater part of the Royal Newfoundland Detachm^{t} were enlisted only for the war; many of them are also literally worn out from a series of the most arduos and harassing services. In consequence of their well earned right to a respite from their toils, I have determined to send them to Montreal, but I must again re-urge in the strongest manner to the Com^{r} of the Forces, the absolute necessity which exists for their being *previously*, & as soon as possible relieved, by at least one strong and effective Company (2).

If we would avoid being brow beat & insulted by our powerful & haughty neighbors, and preserve in the eyes of the Indians some remaining degree of respectability, such a Garrison (also wanted to assist in the construction of the new Fort) at this critical juncture, is more than ever required.

I have no further news from the Mississippi since my last.

The repairs of the buildings at S^{t} Josephs are rapidly going on, & if necessary will soon be fit to receive the Garrison & Stores. I have for that purpose made use of the dwelling house and store houses of the South West Company, and it perhaps will be necessary to come to some agreement with Mr. Richardson on the subject: occupy them we must, if this Island is speedily given up (3). That Gentleman & Mr. M^{c}Gillivray from their local knowledge, will be able to give an opinion how far it would be safe & prudent to consider the most Western Manitoualian Islands as ours, & at once to commence our new establishment, if in other respects it is deemed adviseable.

It will be necessary to direct Mr. Crookshank to forward us provisions & some Rum: of which latter article we have none—both are necessary at this moment for the Indians, who are flocking from all parts, & must for the present be well fed & attended to.

I have the honor to be
Sir, your most Obed^{t} Serv^{t}
R^{t} M^{c}Douall L^{t} Col Com^{g}

[*Pencil notes written across text.*]

(1) "To be communicated to Col. Claus."

(2) "One Company 37th Reg^{t} has been ordered to releive the Company 81st Reg^{t}. Two more Companies under a Field officer to be ordered up to releive the two Companies Newfoundland Regt."

(3) "Approved, that he make arrangements with the Agent for the rent &c."

Archives, C. 688, p. 138.

From McDouall at Michilimackinac to Murray at ——

Michilimackinac 24 June 1815

I have the honor to acquaint Your Excellency, that the New Post on Lake Huron, has been at length fixed upon, by Capt Payne R. Engineers (who arrived here the 13th) Capt Collier R N. & myself.—The situation combines several important advantages, viz—an admirable harbor, proximity to the Indians, & will enable us also to command the passage of the Detour, giving our Vessels the double advantage of a good anchorage in that strait, in addition to the fine harbor adjoining.

The ground fixed upon for the New Post, & which was best calculated for the protection of the Harbor, is very rocky, and will be difficult to work. To carry it on with the spirit & expedition which the times require, a very strong Garrison will be necessary, or great assistance in Masons, Miners & Labourers from below. The Work (to restore the drooping spirits of the Indians) should exceed this Island in strength, & I trust it will be commenced with such ample means, as will afford a fair prospect of its being successfully completed.

It would be highly desireable if some of the 24 Pounders (long) were forwarded from Lake Simcoe this Summer, or fall, otherwise it will be June next, before any of them can be received.

I have the honor to be
Yr Excellencys most Obedt Servt
Rt McDouall Lt Col
Comg

Archives, C. 688, p. 236.

From McDouall at Manitoulin Island, to Major General Robinson at ——

Copy Manitoualin Island
21st July 1815

Sir

I have the honor to inform you that on the 18th Inst I delivered over the Island and Fort of Michilimackinac to Colonel Butler of the United States Troops, having previously removed to this place and St Josephs, the whole of our Guns, Provisions, Ordnance, Stores, &c &c.—

I enclose a return of American Ordnance originally Captured in the place and at the Prairie des Chiens, and which were surrendered to that Government in Conformity to the Treaty of Ghent.—

A Report has just reached me of the arrival of a Company of the 37th Regt at St Joseph's. In the hope that it will be soon followed by the two others which Major Foster informs me have been ordered I shall send back by them the two Companies of the Royal Newfoundland Regt by the Route of the Nottawasaga River as being by far the most direct and easy the Vessels can also on their return bring Cargoes of the Various Stores, Provisions and Indian Presents from that place and which we have hitherto found it so difficult to get conveyed.

Upon this subject I find it my duty to call your Attention to the continued depredation made upon His Majesty's Stores ; it is impossible for me to trace it or to say whether the Pillage takes place on the Route from Nottawasaga or from thence to St Josephs but the abuse has now got to such a pitch as to call loudly for an immediate remedy

We are now busily employed in clearing the Ground for the proposed Fort at this place.—Our progress has been

slow from the Want of Men it will be still less now that we are reduced to a Company—the Ground being rocky will be difficult to Work, therefore Thirty or Forty Artificers (Masons, Miners and Carpenters) are immediately required and perhaps wo^{d} be easiest procured from those no longer wanted.—

In consequence of the statement of the Officers commanding the Schooners two thirds of the detachment of the Royal Newfoundland return with the Schooners which brought the Company of the 37th by the way of the River and Fort Erie, and the other Third in the Enterprize by the way of Nottawasaga and York.—

It would be highly desireable if some of the Long 24 p$^{rs.}$ for our New Fort (and now in the Vicinity of Lake Simcoe) were conveyed here this season—

I have &c

(Signed) Rob^{t} M^{c}Douall

L^{t} Col: Commandg

A true Copy

Will Gibsone.

Act^{g} Mil^{y} Sec^{y}.

END OF VOL. III, PT I.

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